FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 AUGUST 1984

Plane Hijacking

An Iran Air plane, carrying 304 passengers, was hijacked during an internal flight and forced to fly to Cairo after refueling in Bahrain, Tehran radio reported. MENA reported that the 18 hijackers demanded fuel and food. It later added that the plane left Cairo on 8 August for Italy.

Gulf Conflict

Military Situation — An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA denied an IRNA report that an Iranian plane had shot down an Iraqi plane along the southern front. The spokesman reiterated that the only Iraqi air action on 7 August involved the attack on a "large maritime target" south of Khark Island. A Lloyd's Insurance Company spokesman confirmed the attack on the Greek-managed Liberian tanker *Friendship L* , according to INA. In reporting the attack, an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio declared that all the Iraqi planes had returned safely, although an IRNA report later claimed that an Iraqi plane had been shot down during the attack.

Diplomatic Developments — Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim arrived in Oman where he discussed bilateral relations and the Iran-Iraq war in talks with Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id, WAKH reported. Earlier, a Kuwaiti official cited by the Kuwait paper *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* denied reports that the issue of leasing Kuwaiti islands to Iraq was discussed during Ibrahim's recent visit to Kuwait.

In Tehran, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi stressed that Iran cannot agree to a compromise peace with Iraq because "that would not be in the interest of our system" and such a peace would "wipe out the achievements of the Islamic Revolution." In any case, the issues of peace and war are decided by the leader, not by the government, he pointed out in his remarks, which were broadcast by Tehran radio. He also strongly denied rumors that Iran's political moves are in conflict with its military moves.

Red Sea Explosions

The Iranian Foreign Ministry, in a statement reported by IRNA, accused the United States and Israel of mining the Red Sea in a "conspiracy" designed to discredit Iran and make the sea unsafe for Muslim pilgrims. It was clear that the United States and the "the Zionist regime" would resort to such a move to retaliate for their defeats in Lebanon and for the failure of their political and military schemes in the Persian Gulf, the statement contended. Earlier, during a press conference broadcast by Tehran radio, Iranian Prime Minister Musavi denied any Iranian involvement in the mining of the Red Sea and the Suez Canal area, claiming that the Islamic Jihad organization is "unknown" to the Iranian authorities. He warned that Iran "cannot remain silent" if its ships are harassed while passing through the Su[illegible] Canal.

Meanwhile, Paris radio reported that the Egyptian foreign minister is likely to request French assistance in removing mines from the Red Sea during his forthcoming talks with officials in France. The PDRY foreign minister said he would discuss the Red Sea explosions in talks with his counterpart in Kuwait, KUNA noted. In Israel, a security source cited by *HA'ARETZ* stressed that Israel will not "sit back with its arms folded" if the mines jeopardize free navigation to Elat. As for the effect of the mines on shipping, XINHUA disclosed that two Chinese ships were hit by mines in the Red Sea on 31 July and 3 August respectively. Nevertheless, the Egyptian chairman of the Suez Canal Authority stated that the "limited explosions" in the Red Sea are having no effect on the volume of shipping passing through the canal, MENA reported.

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'Arafat Receives Polish Leader's Message

JN071733 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1619 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received a message from the Polish president. He reiterated his country's support for our Palestinian people's just struggle and for the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, in order to enable the Palestinian people to regain their legitimate rights to return to their homeland, to self-determination, and to the establishment of their own independent state. The Polish ambassador to Tunisia conveyed the message to brother leader Abu 'Ammar.

'Arafat on Forming Islamic Peace Forces

JN071339 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1215 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Tunis, 7 Aug (INA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has stated that he is currently in contact with the chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee and the ICO secretary general to prepare for the meeting of the military commission charged with forming the Islamic peace forces in connection withthe Iraqi-Iranian war.

In a statement to the INA correspondent in Tunis, 'Arafat said that he expected to receive an invitation within the next few days to participate in the commission meetings which stem from the Islamic Good Offices Committee made up of Turkey, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and the PLO.

Voice of PLO Radio on Fatah Central Committee Statement

JN071900 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1619 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] With brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] attending, the Fatah Central Committee [FCC] has concluded its 3-day meetings in Tunis. FCC member Brother Abu Mahir [Muhammad Ghunaym] affirmed that the Iraq-Iran war occupied the major part of the FCC deliberations. He said the FCC reviewed measures taken by the Islamic Good Offices Committee to halt the Iraq-Iran war. He added that the FCC is currently concentrating its major effort on bringing about the success of the Islamic Committee in halting the fighting. Among these measures, he reiterated, is deploying an Islamic peace-keeping force in the area after halting the Iraq-Iran fighting.

In another development, the FCC described the new Soviet proposal concerning the Middle East situation as a preemptive attack against hostile plans which both the Zionist Labor Party and the United States intend to propose, particularly since U.S. Middle East policy is distinguished by its strategic alliance with the Zionist enemy.

The FCC issued a statement in which it said that the announcement of the Soviet initiative and its discussion with the Arab parties concerned does not stem from a political vacuum or is made only to express the USSR's principled faith in the need for a just peace in the Middle East that can solve the Palestine question and achieve the Palestinian people's national rights. The FCC is convinced that the timing of this initiative, in its progressive version through consultation with the PLO and the Arab parties, indicates that the friendly USSR is aware of reports leaking from Europe and the United States about new plans which the Zionist Labor Party may propose when it forms the Zionist entity's government with an advanced European-U.S. welcome.

Brothers, more details about this report are carried in the following dispatch by our radio correspondent:

[Begin recording] Fatah issued a statement following its Central Committee's meetings that ended in Tunis yesterday. It emphasized its full commitment to the Algiers-Aden agreement and considered it a national achievement on the path to realizing Palestinian national unity and independent decisionmaking. The statement reiterated Fatah's adherence to this agreement and stressed the need for all signatories to adhere fully to it, emphasizing that Fatah will oppose any action or stand that sabotages the agreement. Fatah decided to make a major move in both the Arab and international arenas to explain the Algiers-Aden agreement.

Concerning the Iraq-Iran war, the statement explained that the FCC heard a review by Brother Abu 'Ammar on the Islamic Good Offices Committee's efforts to halt this war and the contacts with a number of Arab and Islamic countries.

Concerning the Soviet initiative, the FCC noted that it is more comprehensive and clearer than the previous Soviet initiative concerning the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative and the inevitability of its participation in the international conference which this Soviet initiative proposes. It is more comprehensive and clearer because it asserts the Palestinian people's national rights, including their rights to self-determination, to return to their homeland according to UN resolutions, and to establish their independent state.

In its statement the FCC explained that the Soviet initiative affirms the rights of the independent Palestinian state to practice its sovereignty fully, including the establishment of a confederation with Jordan. The FCC expressed its conviction that the timing of this initiative, in its progressive version through consultation with the Arab parties and the PLO, indicates that the USSR is aware of a possible emergence of Zionist and U.S. initiatives in the forthcoming phase. The statement described the Soviet initiative as a preemptive attack against the hostile initiatives that both the Zionist Labor Party and the United States intend to make.

The FCC touched on the European stand and said that, excluding France, Italy, and Greece, some European countries' stands are passive while the stands of others are retreating. It affirmed that Arab differences and their negative effect in the international arena helped Europe in justifying its political stand toward the Palestine question, the Middle East conflict, and the Iraq-Iran war.

Concerning Fatah's internal situation, the FCC explained that it reviewed reports by its leading committees — the Occupied

Homeland, Finance, Information, Mobilization and Organization, and Security Committees — and noted that it made special decisions in these areas.

The FCC concluded its statement by applauding the Palestinian people's steadfastness inside the occupied territories and their enlightenment, firm struggle, and support for their legitimate leadership.

In this statement the FCC said that an Arab summit is the first priority for ending the deadlock and the increasing rift in the Arab world, as well as for confronting the Zionist enemy and its plans.

Concerning the current Arab situation, the FCC decided to make efforts and to coordinate its relations in order to ensure good preparations for a successful Arab summit that can reach an outlet for the stalemate and paralysis in the Arab situation.

The FCC stressed the need for the convocation of the PNC on its fixed date, 15 September 1984, according to the Algiers-Aden agreement. It also stressed the need for all parties to adhere to this agreement.

The FCC noted the importance of enabling legitimate Palestinian institutions to regain their struggle function. It noted that continued Arab inaction will hamper Arab commitment to the Palestine question and the Palestinian struggle.

In its statement, the FCC revealed that U.S. ideas that conform with the Zionist Labor Party's proposals will be announced as soon as this party succeeds in forming a government. It affirmed that the forthcoming phase will witness a new Zionist-U.S. onslaught that is characterized by a soft appearance, but which is actually Zionist within. It emphasized that such circumstances require the convocation of an Arab summit and the adoption of clear and serious Arab decisions. These circumstances also require the convocation of the PNC on its set date, 15 September 1984, without any further postponement. [end recording]

Voice of PLO Radio Analyzes Red Sea Explosions

JN071938 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1637 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] It is not possible to claim that the Red Sea mines are a normal event. The appearance of about 100 floating mines in that strategic waterway and the damage sustained by 12 ships within a few days are equivalent to a declaration of war.

We believe that the number of mines used to blockade Haiphong Harbor in Vietnam or the Nicaraguan ports was about the same as the number of Red Sea mines. Furthermore, there were fewer ships hit.

What is more surprising than the event itself is that the world was not astonished by the Red Sea mines. The general trend and the way the problem is being tackled gives the impression that the incident should be accepted as a fact and that all the consequences that may arise from it should also be dealt with as facts.

For instance, no international committee has been formed to investigate the origin of the mines. This is despite the fact that such a weapon is rarely used and is not available to all those who would like to use it.

The side responsible for this deed remains unknown, despite the claim by an Egyptian Islamic organization, which cannot be taken seriously.

The Egyptian defense minister spoke about the possible involvement of two states in planting the mines but did not name them, as though the problem is an ordinary one. The minister even said that the media have made a big issue out of this problem.

We may excuse Egypt for its desire not to present to the world a picture in which Egyptian borders seem to be seething with explosions. Cairo may be trying to give the impression that the situation is under control. However, the problem does not seem to be so. The Red Sea mines were immediately linked with the Iraqi-Iranian war.

This connection seemed absolutely normal as though, logically, the war should be expected to spread from the Gulf, east of the Arabian Peninsula, to the Red Sea in the west. Are we to imagine that neither side in this war has the ability to spread the battle to such a great extent? Is it not difficult for us to understand how can either of them benefit from such developments?

Which of the Red Sea littoral states wants to get involved in this expanded war? Which one wants its borders exposed to such explosions? Yet, the explosions are happening because the mines are there, and the connection between this incident and the Gulf war is not baseless. Moreover, the Red Sea states find themselves threatened and involved.

Suddenly, the United States and the NATO members emerge as deliverers. The U.S. Navy, with its planes, minesweepers, and warships, rushes to mop up the Red Sea mines and to prevent the mysterious explosions. Suddenly, work begins to form a U.S.-British-French naval force to guard this sea which had been calm for many years. As a gigantic U.S. fleet assembles at the mouth of the Gulf, U.S. and NATO warships gather in the Red Sea.

The source of the mines remains unknown. We have only to accept the incident as a normal, expected development. We have to accept its consequences and take them for granted. We have to accept the protection of the U.S.-NATO warships because of our weakness and internal explosions.

QNA Reports Upcoming Tour of OPEC Oil Ministers

GF071038 Doha QNA in Arabic 0820 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 7 Aug (QNA) — Algerian Energy and Petrochemical Industries Minister Belkacem Nabi arrived today in Abu Dhabi.

He will join UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah and Venezuelan Energy and Mines Minister Arturo Hernandiz — who will arrive at a later time in Abu Dhabi — on a joint tour of six major oil producing countries.

Responsible oil sources told the QNA correspondent in Abu Dhabi that the tour of the OPEC delegation will begin on Thursday. The sources added that this tour is designed to accentuate the need for action in order to define the maximum limits of production and to attain joint action in order to maintain the current OPEC oil prices.

The delegation will visit Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Libya, and Indonesia. The delegation will hold talks with the leaders of these countries on confirming the importance of the latest OPEC resolutions on production quotas and protecting the current price rates.

BAHRAIN

Iranian Plane Makes Emergency Landing

GF080644 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0630 GMT 8 Aug

[Text] Manama, 8 Aug (WAKH) — WAKH has learned from Bahrain International Airport sources that an Iranian airbus belonging to the Iranian Airways Company (Iran Air) performed an emergency landing at Bahrain airport early this morning. The plane left the airport a short while after its emergency landing.

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ on Red Sea Mining Incidents

GF071056 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0805 GMT 7 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 7 Aug (WAKH) — The Bahraini newspaper *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* has called for refraining from surrender to fear and urged that the superpowers not be invited to interfere in protecting the Red Sea. The paper adds that it would be difficult to get these forces out of the region because they assume they have the right to be there. Commenting editorially, the paper refers to the mysterious blasts of ships in the Red Sea. The paper indicates that this new crisis threatens to bring foreign interference into a region in the heart of the Arab world. The paper stresses that the Arab countries overlooking the Red Sea are capable of cleaning their territorial waters and of tightening control over passing ships so as to ensure that all is well and that no terrorists charges have been planted as these vessels stop at the ports.

The paper demands tightening security at all seaports along the Red Sea. It says: Most of these ports are Arab. Among them are those of Egypt — which is regarded as having the oldest navy in the Arab world and which seems capable of confronting the dangers. The paper praises the position of Yemen — which has announced its readiness to confront the dangers and to use all its limited resources to confront these dangers.

The paper asserts that the Arab countries as a whole can cooperate and complete their naval preparations by borrowing from one another or by getting what they need from the world's arms markets to attain stability and peace in the region and to eliminate sabotage attempts which are designed to create terror and to bring foreign sides into the region.

KUWAIT

PDRY Foreign Minister To Discuss Red Sea Explosions

LD071404 Kuwait KUNA in English 1249 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 7 (KUNA) — Foreign Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali arrived here Tuesday for a three day official visit. He was received at the airport by the Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, director of [the] Protocol Department Mohammad Za'id al-Harbash and the ambassador of South Yemen to Kuwait 'Abd al-Wahi al-Farah.

Ad-Dali told reporters upon arrival that the recent developments in the Red Sea "are very dangerous and target the safety and security of the littoral states and safety of Arab countries in the region." He was referring to the mysterious mine explosions in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea which damaged scores fo commercial ships.

The foreign affairs minister said he will raise the mine blasts in the Red Sea during his talks with Shaykh Sabah. "It is imperative that we consult with our brethren over such issues," Ad-Dali noted.

The visiting minister said his talks with Kuwaiti officials will deal with all issues of common interests in addition to bilateral relations which he described as "good, exemplary and distinct." Ad-Dali affirmed that Kuwait and South Yemen are pursuing stronger ties in all fields.

Besides bilateral ties, he said, the talks with Kuwaiti officials will also cover Arab developments and the situation in the region in general. He said Aden is about to examine a future plan to confront the situation along with its brethren. He did not elaborate.

On the possibility of holding a conference grouping the Red Sea littoral states, Ad-Dali said such a matter depends on the collective decision of all concerned countries.

Talks Held With Ad-Dali

LD081111 Kuwait KUNA in English 1015 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 8 (KUNA) — Relations between Aden and the Gulf Cooperation Council states topped the first round of official talks between Kuwaiti Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad and the visiting Foreign Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali Wednesday. Shaykh Sabah told KUNA following the meeting that Ad-Dali explained the misunderstanding which resulted from the statement issued by the South Yemeni representative at the Security Council when it was debating a GCC complaint against Iranian air raids on Arab tankers in the Arabian Gulf. The deputy premeir added that the talks which were held at his office in the Information Ministry also reviewed Aden ties with the GCC states in general and Oman Sultanate in particular.

South Yemen and Oman had reached an agreement two years ago in Kuwait which finally led to restoration of their relations and the exchange of diplomatic representation after a 15-year suspension. The talks were attended from the Kuwaiti side by the acting director of Shaykh Sabah's office, Sulayman al-Marjan and from the Yemeni side by its ambassador to Kuwait, 'Abd al-Wahid al-Farah and the director of Ad-Dali's office.

Shaykh Sabah added that the two sides also reviewed the recent mysterious mine blasts in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea which damaged a dozen of merchant vessels. The chief Kuwaiti diplomat noted that Ad-Dali explained the incidents in the Red Sea but affirmed that Aden has no information on the side which planted the mines and therefore cannot lay the blame on anyone.

Shaykh Sabah said Kuwait was deeply concerned with the explosions in the Red Sea because that "international waterway is important to Kuwait and the rest of the Gulf states as much as it is significant to the whole world." The deputy premier said the Kuwait side at the negotiations requested early information on any new developments in the Red Sea. Shaykh Sabah will host this afternoon a luncheon at Dasman Government Guest House in honor of Ad-Dali and members of the accompanying delegation.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM Comments on Red Sea Mining

GF071450 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0920 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Manama, 7 Aug (WAKH) — The Kuwaiti newspaper *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* today asked why the mines were planted in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea at a time when the Iraqi-Iranian war has subsided somewhat en route to a possible solution. The paper associated this incident with those who kindled the war in the Gulf and those who exploited this armed dispute to make huge monetary and political gains. The paper expressed the conviction that those who planted these mines wanted to build a ring of fire around the Arabian Peninsula to coerce more Arab countries — such as Egypt, the YAR, the PDRY, and Saudi Arabia — into taking part in the weapons game.

The paper went on to say that observers will undoubtedly pause when considering the suspicious movement of the Western fleets toward the Horn of Africa region and the announcement made by the United States with regard to the moves of the U.S. armada in addition to its consultations with Israel.

Official Denies Islands Leased to Iraq

GF071358 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 6 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] Dr 'Abd ar-Rahman al-'Awadi, minister of public health, planning, and acting minister of state for Cabinet affairs, has denied reports carried by some news agencies that Kuwaiti islands will be leased to Iraq. The reports said that this issue was discussed during the visit of the Iraqi RCC vice chairman to Kuwait. However, Dr al-'Awadi stated that neither this issue nor the issue of border demarcation were ever discussed. He explained that the results of the discussions were stated in the joint communique.

Earlier, REUTER quoted diplomatic sources in Baghdad as saying that Iraq is trying to obtain use of two Kuwaiti islands for monitoring navigation in the northern part of the Gulf on the basis of the border agreement between the two countries.

Soviet Military Delegation To Visit 'Shortly'

GF071422 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 6 Aug 84 pp 1, 21

[By political editor]

[Text] *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* has learned from its reliable sources that a Soviet military delegation will arrive in Kuwait shortly to complement the talks held in the USSR. Agreement on this visit was reached during the visit by Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah to the USSR last month. The sources speculated that the types of weapons to be purchased will be determined during the Soviet delegation's visit to Kuwait. During this visit, contracts will be signed for the weapons suitable for Kuwait and in accordance with the specifications set by the military experts at the Ministry of Defense.

The Kuwaiti talks in Moscow focused on devising an air defense with new missiles which are efficient enough to repel attacking aircraft very quickly. Kuwait ordered the U.S. Stinger missiles because they meet its specifications, but as is known, the United States turned down the request and offered direct protection to Kuwait instead. However, Kuwait rejects any foreign protection and has insisted on purchasing arms which will enable it to defend itself. After the U.S. turned down its arms request, Kuwait did not hesitate for long before it requested similar — indeed more efficient — missiles and with other types of arms from the Soviet Union.

Kuwait said it would deal with the Soviet Union on arms in the framework of the dealings the two countries have had since 1977 and that it would seek to strengthen its defense from any source which can provide the arms which Kuwait needs.

A senior official has told *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* that Kuwait pays no attention to this tendentious and fabricated furor by Western media and its allegation that Kuwait has abandoned its neutrality and that its independence is now in jeopardy. The fact is that in its policy of diversifying arms, Kuwait acts out of its strong policy to keep its independence and not to allow any party to subjugate it because of arms or anything else. When the Americans tried to exchange arms for protection, they got the expected reply: We want to defend ourselves.

OMAN

Iraq's 'Izzat Ibrahim Arrives in Oman

GF071212 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1040 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Muscat, 7 Aug (WAKH) — RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Muscat at noon today on an official visit to the Sultanate of Oman. During the visit 'Izzat Ibrahim will hold talks with Omani officials on means of consolidating bilateral relations and prospects for expanding them in the interest of the Arab nations. The talks also will deal with several issues such as the political and economic questions, the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war, and the current interntional situation, especialy the situation in the Arabian Gulf region.

'Izzat Ibrahim and his delegation were received on arrival in Muscat by Fahar ibn Taymur, deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs; Yahya Mahfuz al-Mundhuri, minister of education and youth affairs; Muhammad az-Zubayr, adviser for Sultan Qabus' affairs; and Shaykh Muhammad ibn 'Ali (al-Qatbi), deputy governer of Dhofar.

Sultan Qabus Receives Ibrahim

GF071401 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1220 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Salalah, 7 Aug (WAKH) — Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id received Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim and the delegation accompanying himin Salalah at noon today. Bilateral relations and means of consolidating and expanding them in addition to the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war were reviewed during the meeting.

Iraq's Ibrahim Concludes Visit

GF081004 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim and accompanying delegation left the country this morning following a 2-day official visit to the Sultanate, during which he met with Sultan Qabus. Bilateral relations, the means to bolster them, and developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war were discussed.

Sudanese Delegation Concludes Visit, Departs

GF081012 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Excerpt] 'Ali Muhammad Shammu, Sudanese minister of information and culture, and accompanying delegation left the country this morning following a 5-day visit to the Sultanate. Prior to his departure, the Sudanese minister made a statement to radio and press reporters in which he said that his talks and the talks of his accompanying delegation with officials in the Sultanate were successful and fruitful. They centered on issues of mutual interest, the means to bolster cooperation between both countries, coordination in all fields, and developments in the Arab and international arenas.

His Excellency added that he briefed the officials in the Sultanate on the Sudanese conference which will be held toward the end of September on the occasion of the first anniversary of implementing Islamic shari'a in Sudan. He said this conference will be attended by a number of thinkers and concerned figures and that scientific studies will be proposed for discussion during it. He added that he discussed with the Information Ministry officials the existing cooperation in the information field including the exchange of expertise and programs. At the conclusion of his statement, His Excellency praised the Sultanate's honorable stand toward Sudan and toward all the other Arab questions.

Briefs

Outgoing Envoy to Sudan — 'Isa ibn Ahmad ibn 'Ali, the Sultanate of Oman's ambassador to Sudan, met yesterday with Sudanese First Vice President 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib at the conclusion of his assignment. [Summary] [Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 7 Aug 84 GF]

QATAR

Saudi Military Delegation Arrives in Doha

GF071959 Doha QNA in Arabic 1945 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Doha, 7 Aug (QNA) — A Saudi military delegation arrived in Doha this evening. The delegation is led by Staff Colonel Prince Khalid ibn Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The delegation will begin an official visit to Qatar.

Briefs

Outgoing Omani Envoy — Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, received today Salim Muhammad al-Gaylani at the conclusion of his assignment as the ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman in Doha. [Summary] [Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 7 Aug 84 GF]

SAUDI ARABIA

Iraqi Official Arrives for 'Brief' Visit

LD081034 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Jidda, 8 Aug (SPA) — 'Izzat Ibrahim deputy chairman of the Iraqi Revolution Council arrived in Jidda this morning for a brief visit to Saudi Arabia. His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, led those at the airport to welcome him.

Minister Warns Against Petrochemical Protectionism

LD071237 Vienna OPECNA in English 1022 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Vienna, 7 Aug 84 (OPECNA) — Saudi Arabia told the Unido IV Conference here Monday that efforts towards greater industrial growth in developing countries would be "frustrated and nullified" if developed countries adopted protectionist measures against Third World petrochemical products. Saudi Industry and Electricity Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz az-Zamil said he expected advanced countries to give the same liberal treatment to Third World industrial products as they gave to their own goods. He noted that the Third World was importing about 20 billion dollars worth of industrial goods annually from developed countries.

Al-Zamil said protectionist measures — either tariff or non-tariff — designed to "insulate" aging industries, might appear to prevent higher unemployment in the short run, but they also slowed down the generation of new and more productive employment. Saudi Arabia, he said, was strongly committed to the concept of South-South cooperation, having disbursed about six billion dollars to developing countries to finance a range of development projects.

But he said South-South cooperation was not a substitute for North-South cooperation, which was an essential element in an interdependent world. Stressing that greater industrial cooper-

ation between the Third World and advanced countries was vital, the Saudi minister added that exchanging experiences and setting up training centres would enhance the capabilities of developing countries.

AL-YAWM on Differences Between Labor, Likud

GF071641 Ad-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 7 Aug 84 p 5

[Editorial: "Firm Arab Conviction Toward the Enemy"]

[Excerpts] The firm conviction among the Arabs is that anybody who belongs to the Zionist movement is considered an enemy; because he implements the principles of this movement which is based on the obliteration of Arabs in general and the Arabs of Palestine in particular, the occupation of their territory, and the formation of the great state of Israel.

The difference between Peres and Shamir is that very difference one finds when looking in the mirror. There is no difference between the two except that they are heading for the same point from different directions. This is the opinion that is held by the Arab nation. Peace can be achieved if the allies of Israel stop supplying it with the instruments of destruction and hostility, and when they put pressure on the enemy government, whichever it is, to respond to the legitimate UN resolutions, international conventions, the logic of justice, and the world human rights charter. We believe that the Arab plan for peace is the best for establishing an overall peace in the region, since its articles contain the minimum of what the Arabs can ask for to achieve peace, and its policy is drawn from international conventions and the UN bodies.

UAE

Statement Issued on Iraqi Official's Visit

GF071202 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Joint statement on the visit of Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim to the UAE issued in Abu Dhabi on 7 August]

[Text] At the invitation of Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad Al Nuhayyan, Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim paid a visit to the UAE from 6 to 7 August. The RCC vice chairman was accompanied by an official delegation comprising Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs; 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd ar-Rahim, minister of transport and communications; and a number of responsible officials. He was officially received on arrival at Abu Dhabi airport. Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad Al Nuhayyan; Information and Culture Minister Ahmad ibn Hamid; Major General Hammudah ibn 'Ali, minister of state for internal affairs; Rashid 'abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; and a number of senior officials in the UAE were at the foremost of those who received the delegation at the airport.

On the evening of 6 August, UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received at the guest house Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim and the delegation accompanying him. His Highness the president warmly welcomed the Iraqi guest and his delegation and stressed the fraternal bonds between the two countries and the importance of consolidating and developing them so that they can serve the interests of the two fraternal countries in particular, and the Arab and Islamic nations in general. Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim explained to the UAE president the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war and stressed the importance of exchanging views at this specific time on issues of mutual concern to confront the threats facing the Arabian Gulf in particular, and the Arab and Islamic nations in general. During the meeting the vice chairman expressed Iraq's preparedness and armed capabilities to defend its security and territorial integrity against any aggression.

The two sides reviewed the current Arab and international situations, especially the situation in the Arab Gulf region. They reiterated their constant and declared positions toward the Palestinian issue — support for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people to return to their homeland and to self-determination.

His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan expressed his deep understanding of Iraq's position and its sincere response to all the initiatives which were aimed at putting an end to the Iraqi-Iranian war and at stopping the bloodshed between the two Muslim neighboring countries — Iraq and Iran. UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan hosted a dinner in honor of the Iraqi guest and the delegation accompanying him attended by Deputy Prime Minister Minister Hamdan ibn Muhammad Al Nuhayyan and a number of ministers and senior officials in the state.

'Izzat Ibrahim and his delegation left for Muscat this morning within the framework of his tour of the region.

President Zayid Leaves for Turkey

GF081000 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0708 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 8 Aug (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, UAE president, left Abu Dhabi for Ankara this morning on an official 4-day visit to Turkey in response to an invitation from Turkish President Kenan Evren.

The UAE president is accompanied by an official delegation which includes Shaykh Rashid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Umm al-Qaiwayn; Shaykh Hamad ibn Muhammad ash-Sharqi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Al-Fujairah; Mr Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, UAE president's representative; Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, petroleum and natural resources minister; Major General Hammudah ibn 'Ali, minister of state for internal affairs; Mr Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Hasan al-Khazraji, minister of Islamic affairs and awqaf; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Zayid; Major General Hamid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, Umm al-Qaiwayn police chief; Mr Sa'id ad-Darmaki, chief of protocol; Mr 'Abdallah an-Nuways, information and culture ministry under secretary; Mr Nasir an-Nuways, finance and industry ministry under secretary and director general of the Abu Dhabi Arab economic

development fund; and Mr Khamis Bati ar-Rumaythi, director of UAE president's office.

Briefs

Prisoners Released — Abu Dhabi, 7 Aug (WAKH) — In his capacity as ruler of the Abu Dhabi Emirate, UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has issued orders to release 47 prisoners on the 18th anniversary of his assumption of power in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. [Text] [Manama WAKH in Arabic 2029 GMT 7 Aug 84 GF]

PDRY

Chairman Addresses Final Joint Committee Meeting

GF071903 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Speech by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, chairman of the Council of Ministers, at the closing meeting of the second session of the PDRY-YAR Joint Ministerial Committee [al-lajnah al-wizariyah al-mustarakah] in Aden on 7 August — recorded]

[Text] 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee in the northern part of the dear homeland; brother members of the Joint Ministerial Committee of the two parts of the homeland: It gives us great pleasure that the meetings of the second session of the Joint Ministerial Committee have been crowned with success following the series of preparations that preceded them and the talks that were held during the period in which the session was convened. Undoubtedly, the positive results and resolutions of the second session are an extension of the results upon which agreement was reached during the two sessions of the Yemeni Supreme Council and other unionist meetings. The implementation of these results and resolutions will lead to new constructive steps that are part of the joint efforts on the road to unity.

We are confident of our ability to translate these results into real achievements in light of our joint cooperation and our constant efforts to overcome all difficulties that obstruct the implementation of what has been aggreed upon.

It may be appropriate for me to refer with great satisfaction to the fraternal atmosphere that prevailed during our talks in the current session, which has yielded positive results and resolutions. We must make constant efforts to implement, preserve, and develop these resolutions. In this regard, we shall continue our efforts to coordinate with our brothers in the northern part of the homeland, foremost among whom is the Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to implement all what has been agreed upon and to strengthen and develop existing unionist achievements — achievements that we have accomplished in the past years in a fraternal and unionist atmosphere.

On this occasion I wish to greet all employees and officials of unionist bodies and joint institutions, and in particular the members of the secretariat of the Yemeni Supreme Council, who have prepared well for this session and who are participating with us in following up the implementation of the agreed results in the various fields of political coordination, economic integration, trade, and the movement of citizens between the two parts of Yemen.

Once again I reiterate our pleasure at the success of the second session of the Joint Ministerial Committee and I emphasize to you our complete readiness for joint cooperation to serve our people's national cause and our people's struggle for unity and progress. Thank you. [applause]

YAR Premier Final Address

GF072040 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Speech delivered by 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, YAR prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, at the end of the second session of the Joint Ministerial Committee in Aden on 7 August — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Dear Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the presidium of the Supreme People's Council, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and secretary general [of the YSP Central Committee] in the southern part of the homeland; members of the Joint Ministerial Committee, and all attending brothers: At the end of the second session of the Ministerial Committee, I would like to express my most sincere delight and satisfaction over the strides we have been able to make. This has been due to your care and attention together with that of brother leader Secretary General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, and your eagerness to work hard within the framework of the Ministerial Committee and its offshoot committees and in response to all our Yemeni people's aspirations to restore their unity, which is a legislative and constitutional issue. We consider what the committee has achieved at this session as a great step on the road toward restoring our unity.

We are confident that our efforts will not end here. We will all work toward bringing closer the day when the great hope of our people will be fulfilled through the restoration of their unity by peaceful and democratic means.

At the end of this session we urge the offshoot committees of the Yemeni Supreme Council, the Ministerial Committee, and the Supreme Council Secretariat to accelerate efforts to accomplish the task that has been assigned to them, so that by the time the next committee session is held we will have taken important strides on the path of this great objective.

Brother chairman, attending brothers, at the end of our session, we emphasize that the established coordination between the two parts of the homeland in various fields is the guaranteed way to bridge the gap which is the legacy of the hated regime of the imam and hated British colonialism to our Yemeni people in the two parts. At the same time, it ensures the achievement of a qualitative step in our unity efforts under the Yemeni Supreme

Council, through which Yemen can preserve its character and independence and maintain and defend its unity in all fields.

At the same time, Yemen can play its role in the issues of our Arab nation, especially the Palestinian issue. The events of the first Arab issue, the Palestinian issue, have proved during the past 3 years the effectiveness and the positiveness of coordination between the two parts in providing cooperation and solidarity to the Palestinian people in their just struggle to regain their rights to self-determination under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative, the PLO.

The two parts of Yemen have expressed their support for the international efforts to restore the Arab righs, foremost among which are the rights of the Palestinian people. In this way, Yemen, with its two parts, will be playing its role in achieving the progress of the Arab nation and the restoration to its position, out of our people's belief that they share a common destiny with the Arab nation.

Finally brother chairman, I would like to express my thanks and appreciation for the hospitality and attention given to us during our stay in the dear southern part of the homeland. I would like to express my thanks to all, especially the brothers in the secretariat, for their efforts to make this second session of the Ministerial Committee successful. God make us successful in the interest our people. God's peace and mercy and blessings be upon you. [applause]

YAR Premier Departs

GF080836 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, YAR prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, and his accompanying delegation left Aden this evening following the conclusion of the meetings of the second session of the Ministerial Committee of the two parts of the homeland. Foremost among those who saw him off were Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers; a number of brother members of the YSP Political Bureau and Central Committee; ministers and party and government officials.

Prior to his departure, Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'abd al-Ghani made a statement in which he said: The second session of the Ministerial Committee was expressive of the continuing efforts by the two parts to achieve the most important objective of the Yemeni people in the two parts — the restoration of its unity.

During this session we were able to review many tasks along this path through the implementation of the resolutions which were made by the Supreme Yemeni Council during its second session, especially with regard to trade exchange between the two parts of the homeland and the freedom of movement of citizens between the two parts.

The committee was also able to take new important strides along this path. A number of resolutions and recommendations were made and a number of them will be raised to the Supreme Yemeni Council at its next session. The coordination committees of the concerned ministries in both parts will implement relevent decisions during their regular meetings.

We express our delight at what we have accomplished during this session and hope that when the next session of the Ministerial Committee is held, most of the aspirations of our people will have been fulfilled along the path of restoring its unity, which is the path of its dignity and honor.

On this occasion I would like to express my appreciation and the appreciation of my accompanying delegation for the very warm welcome and care we received from Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and the brother officials. Their utmost concern has played the greatest role in the accomplishments of the committee during its recent session.

Foreign Minister Off to Kuwait, Libya, Algeria

GF071503 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali left Aden for Kuwait this morning within the framework of a tour, during which he will visit the Syrian Arab Republic, the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. In a statement to ANA, Dr ad-Dali said that he will hold talks with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, on the distinguished fraternal relations between our country and the State of Kuwait and on the current developments in the Arab region.

During his short visit to Damascus, Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali will hold talks with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' on fraternal relations between the two countries and the developments in the current situation.

ANA has learned that Dr ad-Dali will deliver messages from Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to Chadli Bendjedid, president of Algeria, and to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, on bilateral relations and the current developments in the Arab region.

YAR

Soviet Foreign Ministry Official Arrives

GF071940 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Yuriy Rybakov, chief of the Treaty and Legal Department at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, arrived in San'a' today on a several-days visit to our country. During his visit he will hold discussions with officials at the Foreign Ministry on bilateral relations.

In statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Rybakov said that the exchange of visits between the officials of the two countries will allow for more discussions on various issues and will promote cooperation between the two countries. In his statement he explained that during his visit he will hold talks with the officials at the Foreign Ministry on bilateral relations, especially in the political and economic fields. Rybakov said that his visit will allow him to acquaint himself with the cultural and historical aspects of the YAR.

Prime Minister Returns From PDRY

GF080840 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, arrived in San'a' today from Aden. He led the delegation of the northern part in the Joint Ministerial Committee of the Homeland which concluded its work in Aden today.

Hijacked Iranian Airliner Lands in Cairo

NC080625 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0621 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 8 Aug (MENA) — A hijacked Iranian airliner landed at Cairo International Airport at 0755 today. The pilot of the airbus had asked to land for refueling.

The airliner was towed to a distant place near the baggage unloading area [qarryat al-bada'i'] at the airport where security organs are guarding it.

The Egyptian authorities have turned down a request by the hijackers to supply the airliner with food.

The pilot has informed Major General 'Umar Hammad, who is leading the negotiations, that there are 18 hijackers and that 1 of them is in the cockpit. The pilot said the hijackers have tied a belt of explosives to him and have demanded that the airliner leave for Paris.

The hijacked Iranian airliner left Cairo Airport at 1002 for Italy.

AFP Summarizes Events

BK080730 Hong Kong AFP in English 0557 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, Aug 8 (AFP) — A airliner hijacked on an internal Iranian flight landed here early today, after Egyptian authorities had initially refused to allow it to land, informed sources said at Cairo airport.

Just before landing here, the pilot of the Iranian craft, an airbus reportedly containing 304 passengers, asked that the plane be refueled.

Thirty minutes after landing, the plane was immobilized at the end of an isolated runway, and was surrounded by heavily-armed police. No refuelling had begun. Sources said the two hijackers had made no demands since the plane had landed.

The plane was commandeered last night, shortly after it left Tehran for the southwestern city of Shiraz, according to Radio Tehran.

It made a brief stop in Manama, Bahrain, before arriving in Cairo. The radio said there were 304 passengers on the plane.

Egyptian authorities initially refused to allow the aircraft to land, but later relented "in accordance with instructions from international civil aviation," the sources said.

About an hour after the plane arrived here, Egyptian authorities began talks with the hijackers, officials said.

The hijackers asked that the plane go to Paris, the officials said, adding that 18 people had been involved in the takeover of the plane. Earlier reports had said there were only two hijackers.

The officials confirmed that the hijackers had also asked that the plane be refueled and that food be supplied. There were no further details on the hijackers' identities or demands.

Official Stresses Safety of Suez Canal Navigation

NC072027 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2015 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 7 Aug (MENA) — Engineer Muhammaf 'Izzat 'Adil, chairman of the Suez Canal Authority, has asserted that the canal — its entrances, inlets, and anchorages — are completely free and secure for navigation. The chairman of the Canal Authority said in a statement to be published tomorrow in *AL-AKHBAR* that convoys of ships coming from the Red Sea or those coming north from the Mediterranean are crossing the canal in an orderly and calm manner. He added that the average number of ships and oil tankers crossing the canal is 60 per day and that 119 ships and tankers of all sizes and types have crossed the canal in both directions during the past 48 hours. This number represents the normal average for canal crossings.

The Suez Canal Authority chairman stressed that the limited explosions encountered by some ships in the Red Sea have not affected these ships and have not caused serious losses. He said that the ships continued their courses and completed their voyages without delay. He also stressed that this issue should not be given more attention than it deserves. Navigation is normal and regular in the canal. We should completely disregard the tendentious campaigns on navigation in the canal.

Engineer Muhammad 'Izzat 'Adil said that foreign correspondents have personally observed the normal crossings at both the northern and southern entrances of the canal and the movements of ships.

'Abd al-Majid Leaves Brioni for Paris

NC080518 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] President Husni Mubarak and his Yugoslav counterpart will resume their talks in Brioni today on the Middle East issue, the Palestinian problem, and the developments in the Gulf war. In another development, Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid left Brioni for Paris early today with a message from President Mubarak to President Mitterrand.

Turkish Defense Minister Arrives in Cairo

NC071257 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1237 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 7 Aug (MENA) — Turkish Defense Minister Zeki Yayusturk arrived in Cairo from Istanbul this afternoon. He is leading a military delegation on a 1-week visit to Egypt at the invitation of Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production.

The Turkish defense minister was met at the airport by Major General 'Umar Hammad, commander of the Central Military District, and Turkish Ambassador in Cairo Genduk Olgacay.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah will receive the Turkish defense minister and his delegation tomorrow. An official military reception will be given for the Turkish minister at the Armed Forces General Headquarters. A session of talks will follow between the

Egyptian and Turkish sides aimed at discussing ways of military cooperation between the two countries.

AL-JUMHURIYAH: Israel Seeking To Wreck OAU

PM071307 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 29 Jul 84 p 5

[Muhammad Al-Hayawan "Word of Love" column]

[Text] The OAU is threatened with collapse.

There is a serious and pernicious campaign to strike at the OAU and to divide it. Clearly Israel is behind the attempt; it is encouraging it and trying to return to Africa once again to exploit it and to turn it into a zone of influence and a market to sell its products.

Israel is prompting some African leaderships to adopt the idea. These leaderships have a history with Israel and are known for their good relations with Israeli intelligence.

These leaderships are also known for the fact that they rule their countries with steel and fire, smuggle public funds to banks abroad, and are in need of protection by Israeli intelligence organs.

The idea is based on isolating the Arabs of North Africa from the southern part of the continent and creating a new organization under the name of the Organization of Black Africa. The excuse of the protagonists of the idea is that Arab disputes have affected the OAU, paralyzed it, and undermined its meetings more than once. What is required is to distance the Arabs from Africa. This is the real objective behind the idea.

We do not think that there are any Arab differences over Africa. The Arabs agree on helping the poor countries; the Arabs agree on offering expertise to Africa; the Arabs agree on removing Israel's influence from Africa; and the Arabs agree that Africa played a splendid role in the 1973 war and that there is need for further strengthening of Arab-African relations.

Egypt has played a role in this regard. Its leaders have made several tours of Africa and held many contacts. Cairo received several official delegations, the rich Arab countries are still playing their role, and the recent ICO conference in Rabat allocated funds for helping the poor countries. The Arabs have not stopped playing their role in Africa.

But there remains a problem with some of the Arabs who operate for the benefit of Russia in the continent; they sow sedition in Chad, Sudan, Upper Volta and with the Polisario and support every mutiny in the continent.

It is the duty of the Arabs, including the Arabs of Asia, to agree to save the OAU and to adopt a unified stand in the face of the troublemakers and advocates of terror in Africa.

Israel's call for dividing the continent is about to succeed. Israel will return to Africa, the Arabs of North Africa will be isolated from their roots, and Russia as usual, will benefit from Israel's moves.

Saddam Husayn Chairs Cabinet Meeting 7 Aug

JN071145 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1127 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA) — President Saddam Husayn presided over an expanded Cabinet meeting this morning.

During the meeting, which lasted about 4 hours, the Cabinet discussed the topics on its agenda and adopted the necessary measures.

The meeting was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, RCC member and vice president of the republic; the RCC members; the Ba'th Party's Regional Command members; the director of the presidential office; the ministers; and other state officials.

Communique No 1,550 Reports 6-7 Aug Action

JN071628 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Communique No 1,550 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 7 August 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In defense of the proud Iraqi soil and the principles of the glorious Arab nation, our brave Armed Forces are continuing their powerful operations agaisnt the Iranian regime's forces that are bent on expansion and aggression.

The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. At 0921 today a successful air strike was carried out against a very large maritime target south of Khark Island. The target was accurately and effectively hit.

All our brave eagles returned safely with their planes after successfully accomplishing their mission, praise be to God.

Using various types of weapons, our forward units carried out operations against enemy positions and troop concentrations east of Basra, killing three, wounding others, and destroying two heavy machine guns.

2. One personnel shelter was destroyed in the central sector.

3. One infantry position was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

4. One infantry position was destroyed in the northern sector.

5. The criminal Khomeyniite regime shelled Basra, Mandali, and (Biyarah) and its environs, both in the morning and in the afternoon today, with heavy artillery. The barbaric shelling damaged two houses in Basra and caused fire to break out in a number of gardens in Mandali and (Biyarah).

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 7 August 1984

Spokesman Denies Iranian Claim of Downed Plane

JN071840 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1748 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims that an Iraqi plane was shot down in the southern sector of the front. In a statement to INA tonight, the spokesman said that Iraqi planes did not carry out any activities or operations in the southern sector today. He said that Iraqi planes carried out an air strike against a large maritime target south of Khark Island at 0921 today and returned safely after scoring accurate hits on their target.

The Iranian news agency tonight claimed that the Iranian regime's planes shot down an Iraqi fighter plane over the southern sector at 0848 today. The agency did not say what type of plane it was.

The spokesman called on the Iranian regime to produce tangible evidence to prove the Iranian agency's claim.

Economic Cooperation Protocol Signed With Italy

JN071849 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1720 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA) — Iraq and Italy signed a protocol this evening on financial cooperation in order to increase and diversify trade exchange and continue the Italian companies' participation in implementing the national development program in Iraq. The protocol was signed on the Iraqi side by Hasan 'Ali, RCC member, minister of trade, and chairman of the Iraqi side in the Iraqi-Italian joint committee for commercial, economic, and technical cooperation. The Italian ambassador in Baghdad signed for Italy.

During the signing ceremony, 'Ali stressed the importance of this document in strengthening economic cooperation between Iraq and Italy. The Italian ambassador expressed his country's appreciation for Iraq and its accomplishments in both peace and war. The Iraqi ambassador in Rome and a number of Iraqi and Italian officials attended the ceremony.

Oil Minister on Saudi, Jordanian Pipelines

JN080810 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0600 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Aug (INA) — Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi has announced that the projected Saudi pipeline that will carry Iraqi oil will be transferred for implementation next month and that the first stage of this project will be completed within 1 year.

In a statement to the magazine *ALIF BA'*, issued here today, he pointed out that Saturday is the deadline for accepting tenders. He added that this pipeline will have a capcity of 1,600,000 barrels per day [bpd], noting that two technical committees from Iraq and Saudi Arabia are now working jointly to facilitate the implementation of the project. He stressed that Iraq will press for the implementation of the first stage in the shortest possible time.

Regarding the projected Iraqi oil pipeline across Jordan, the minister said that talks are currently underway with a company in order to implement it with a capacity of 1 million bpd. He added that in order to guarantee that the pipeline will not be attacked by the Zionist entity, Iraq has stipulated that it will finance the pipeline's implementation only by means of the oil exported through it. He indicated that Iraq will withhold payment should oil exportation be suspended due to the intervention of a third party.

He added that this condition will make the interested states put pressure on the Zionist entity to prevent it from interfering with or attacking the pipeline. He emphasized that Iraq's condition is basic, firm, and principled and that it has been communicated to the implementing company and the financiers.

Qasim Ahmad Taqi said that Iraq's oil reserves will shortly be second in the world after Saudi Arabia, noting that these reserves now amount to 65 billion barrels. He added that this figure is not final and said: We have not yet completed all surveys and exploration operations. These are continuing all over Iraq. He added: These operations indicate new capabilities and new fields. He expected Iraq's oil reserves shortly to reach 100 billion barrels.

French Minister's ALIF BA' Statements Reported

JN080826 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0615 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Aug (INA) — Edith Cresson, French minister of foreign trade and tourism, has said that the economic relations between Iraq and France are improving.

She said that many French companies have expanded their dealings with Iraq during the Gulf war.

In a statement to the weekly magazine *ALIF BA'*, issued here today, she pointed out that it is natural that difficulties and problems emerge between Iraq and France as a result of the war.

However, she said: The talks between them resulted in agreement to end the problems and create new means of future cooperation between Iraq and France.

Edith Cresson touched on France's stand toward the Iraq-Iran war.

She said that France's stand toward Iraq and the war is very clear and that it had been reiterated more than once, especially by Claude Cheysson, minister of external relations.

She added that France considers Iraq a friendly country, and that France has stood directly at Iraq's side since the beginning of the war.

She stressed that France is currently supporting Iraq's efforts to achieve peace and end the war.

She indicated that France had hosted Khomeyni before the toppling of the Shah's regime. She said that France had received Khomeyni as it would any person who felt persecuted in his own country.

However, she said: When Khomeyni assumed power in Iran, we realized that he was ungrateful to France.

Armed Forces Chief Meets Ustinov in Moscow

JN071231 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow —Lieutenant General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, met with Marshal Ustinov, Soviet defense minister and the CPSU Central Committee member, at the Defense Ministry yesterday.

During the meeting, which was attended by a number of Jordanian and Soviet officers, they discussed various issues of mutual interest.

AD-DUSTUR on Impasse of New Israeli Government

JN071042 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0500 GMT 7 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Agreement on Substantive Matters," *AD-DUSTUR* says: At a time when Israeli Labor Party leader Shim'on Peres is still trying hard to secure an appropriate parliamentary base in order to form a new Israeli Government, and at a time when the chances of forming a cohesive and lasting government are diminishing, the political impasse Israel is now facing becomes most evident, especially since the recent elections have resulted in fragmentation and division, and displayed a swing toward extremism and grudge-bearing racism.

Although the two major Israeli parties do not differ on many foreign issues and domestic affairs, the ongoing acute and bitter political struggle between them on the formation of a new government again reveals the magnitude of the Israeli political impasse now becoming more evident by the maneuvers, bargains, and alliances taking place that are marked by a struggle for power rather than differences over political issues.

Hence, we note that the biggest Israeli party is unable to form a new government without reaching agreement with a long list of small parties of various trends and stands, a matter which confirms the inability of this political formula to determine major political issues and fulfill outstanding international obligations as long as it basically lacks harmony among its leaders,who will always depend on the weaker parties.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: The maneuvers taking place among the different parties and blocs in the Israeli Knesset and the coalition government which will result — regardless of its form or leaders — do not mean anything new for the Arabs.

This will remain true as long as all of these parties and forces agree on substantive matters and on the old hostile policies that are being implemented in the Arab territories occupied in 1967, and also in Lebanon, and as long as the settlement program, the Judaization plans, the disavowal of the Palestinian people's rights, and the adoption of the policy of force and rejection of all peace plans and initiatives continue.

Kahane Leads Demonstration Against Al-Aqsa

JN071642 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Occupied West Bank — Israel today made a new attempt to desecrate the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque. Terrorist Meir Kahane, who has become a member of the Knesset, led an Israeli demonstration toward blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque in an attempt to storm it.

Terrorist Kahane and the demonstrators reached the main entrance of the mosque. He was carrying an Israeli flag. Kahane did not manage to realize his objectives, which have not yet been disclosed.

Elsewhere, Meir Kahane and a group of Jewish settlers, who were carrying arms, stormed Ibrahimi Mosque in the occupied city of Hebron today under the pretext of trying to bury parts of a Jewish holy book in the mosque. Reports say that Kahane and his group entered Ibrahimi Mosque under Israeli soldiers' guard.

Briefs

Outgoing Chilean Ambassador — Amman, 7 Aug (PETRA) — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri held a luncheon today in honor of the Chilean ambassador in Amman on the expiry of his term in Amman. [Excerpt] [Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 7 Aug 84 JN]

Al-Jumayyil, Birri Discuss Security Plan

NC071135 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil today met with Minister Nabih Birri at B'abda Palace. In a session marked by frankness and openness, they aimed to secure a positive atmosphere for the Cabinet's session tomorrow in order to reach reasonable and acceptable solutions — with full harmony among the Cabinet — to all the thorny issues that have been raised so far within the framework of the highest Lebanese interests. This is because accord among the Lebanese is the approach to salvation, as Prime Minister Rashid Karami has often emphasized. After the meeting, Minister Birri said:

[Begin recording] [Birri] Following the atmosphere that prevailed after the last Cabinet session, it was in the interests of the government and Lebanon to hold such meetings to facilitate tomorrow's session. The discussions were not confined to this point. They dealt with general issues, particularly the question of south Lebanon and security topics. There was a special emphasis on the security plan for the mountain and the expansion of security responsibilities.

[Unidentified reporter] An outstanding issue is that of the contracted teachers. Was this problem solved?

[Birri] It will be discussed tomorrow.

[Reporter] Your Excellency....

[Birri, interrupting] A committee held a session yesterday. Some points were resolved and others remain outstanding and the subject of discussion. Their discussion must continue. I believe that tomorrow's session cannot discuss the mountain security issue before the committee concerned completes its discussion. [end recording]

Prime Minister Karami Comments on Security Plan

NC071256 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami continued his activities at the Government House today. He assessed a number of political, security, and social issues. Prime Minister Karami had the following to say upon emerging from the Government House:

[Begin recording] [Karami] The projected security plan for the mountain will be implemented in three stages, and, therefore, it is subject to debate. In other words, this plan can still be reduced or expanded. Consequently, we will review all the various proposals submitted in this regard. There is room for dispute, because any acceptable plan would eventually achieve the desired objective since our objective is to realize security and return the homeland to normalcy.

In this connection, I would like to say that if a topic on the Cabinet's agenda has been postponed, it does not necessarily mean that this topic has been deleted from the agenda. I am referring here to the issue of the contract teachers. This issue is still on the agenda, but postponed. Hence, this issue can still be discussed by the Cabinet any time.

[Unidentified reporter] Your Excellency, will the Cabinet discuss the reopening of the coastal line between Sidon and Beirut within the framework of the mountain security plan?

[Karami] It goes without saying that all international roads will be subjects of discussion.

[Reporter] [question indistinct]

[Karami] This issue has not yet been officially decided. [end recording]

Lebanese Front Criticizes Al-Huss on Teacher Issue

NC071451 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] In a statement issued following today's meeting, the Lebanese Forces put on record its extreme regret over the line that some ministers have been pursuing in handling public affairs. The front asked why Minister Salim al-Huss persistently refused to confirm the contracted teachers when he was prime minister and why is it that only today he has discovered that this is a humanitarian issue? In its statement, the front said that the confirmation of 5,135 teachers is bound to lower the standard of education, and, hence, bring about its collapse.

Al-Huss Justifies Position

NC071511 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1410 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] In a statement today, Minister Salim al-Huss noted that he has been the target of a vicious campaign and had been accused falsely of sectarianism by the champions of sectarianism. He pointed out that he did not have a radio station to present his views, but wanted to clarify the issue. Al-Huss pointed out that teachers under contract have been hired over a period of several years dating back to 1977. He recalled that these teachers were hired by Christian ministers when in office at the Education Ministry. He also noted that the civil service board had naturally approved the contracts, but is now claiming that there was a sectarian imbalance.

Minister al-Huss questioned the reason for the approval by the Civil Service Board in the past and the objection that is being raised at present. Al-Huss said that people have been led to believe that the government is seeking to appoint people at random which is totally untrue. There are specific conditions for appointment and training sessions are required to be attended by all appointees who must also pass a standard examination. Minister al-Huss said that the pressing public interest in the appointment of new teachers is still existing. Any mass dismissal of teachers could mean serious problems. The education minister expressed hope that Lebanese television would give his statement the same attention that was given to the statement of Minister Skaf on this issue.

Chamber Speaker Scores Government Stand on South

NC071647 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad has said the government's success in dissociating the south from the Lebanese crisis is a success for the Israeli plot aimed at breaking up Lebanon, cutting off the south, and separating it from Lebanon for good. He described the government's interest in the south as similar to its interest in China.

Speaker al-As'ad said: During recent events and throughout the period preceding the Israeli operation, the national view has been that the Lebanese crisis should be separated from the Middle East crisis, with the liberation of the south as the key to the solution. However, it seems that the government has succeeded at this stage in dissociating the south from the Lebanese crisis. This success is in fact a success for the Israeli plot aimed at partitioning Lebanon.

Franjiyah Views Local Issues at News Conference

NC080853 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0625 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Excerpts] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah yesterday held his weekly news conference in his Ihdin summer palace. He spoke about current developments and topical issues in Lebanon.

Franjiyah said a meeting was held between [former] President Camille Sham'un and representatives of the Christian sect in the Ash-Shuf and Walid Junblatt and representatives of the Druze sect. An agreement was reached and the conferees emphasized the historical coexistence of all the spiritual groups in Lebanon. Franjiyah said: I extend my sincerest heartfelt congratulations to Their Excellencies Sham'un and Walid Junblatt on this move.

On this occasion I would like to repeat my stern censure of certain world radios, including Radio Monte Carlo and the BBC, which portray the internecine fighting in Lebanon as being between Muslims and Christians. Islam and Christianity have nothing to do with the sectarian fighting. I hope this will be the last censure for both these radios. I hope these fraternal meetings will continue and expand to all Lebanese areas so that Lebanon will return to its previous state of independence and cohesion and liberate itself from the divisions made by the Israeli enemy.

Asked how he views the postponement of the Cabinet meeting and whether it is a normal occurrence, Franjiyah said: This is the first time in Lebanese history that the Cabinet meeting has been cancelled. Lebanon experienced several differences of opinion among ministers, which indicates a sound democracy. However, the cancellation of a Cabinet meeting because of a minister's absence indicates a return to old practices.

In the past, officials above the ministerial level would boycott Cabinet meetings, but the meetings would still take place and decisions would still be made. The reason announced for cancelling the meeting deserves to be discussed seriously, because it concerns the fate of some citizens. I hope these citizens will be given their rights.

Asked about the security plan in the mountain and the reason for its stumbling, Franjiyah said: The security plan is stumbling. Why? I do not know the reason.

Franjiyah was asked if he feels that because it is clear the opposition no longer plays any role, does this indicate that the government march is on the right path. He said: You think the opposition is absent, but I think the contrary is true. The opposition exists and will continue to exist. Any government without opposition is not democratic. The Lebanese people are accustomed to democracy and will continue to live under the democracy they chose.

Asked his views on security arrangements with the Israeli enemy, Franjiyah said: I cannot give my views before I know the arrangements. If the arrangements are like those outlined in the 17 May agreement, I reject them as being out of hand. If, however, the arrangements aim to ensure security on the Lebanese borders by the Lebanese, and on the enemy borders by the enemy, then I support them.

Asked his views on the effects of an Israeli national unity government on Lebanon in particular, and on the Arab world in general, Franjiyah said: My personal opinion is that a change of leadership in Israel does not change the foreign policy. The only hope when leaders change is that those who assume power are free and are dissociated from the old policy of occupying our holy land. There is hope, but I doubt that this hope can be fulfilled if Shi'mon Peres forms a Cabinet. If he wants to do something to gain popularity, he should withdraw the hostile forces from our holy land.

National Democratic Front Nucleus Formed

NC080755 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Prior to the formation of the Democratic National Front [Al-Jabhah al-Wataniyah ad-Dimuqratiyah], a meeting was held last night at the residence of Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party. It was attended by George Hawi, Lebanese Communist Party secretary general; 'Isam Mahayiri, leader of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party; 'Asim Qansuh, regional secretary of the Ba'th Party Organization [in Lebanon]; In'am Ra'd; Kamil Muruwwah; Mahmud 'Abd al-Khaliq; and 'Abd al-Amir 'Abbas.

After the meeting, Walid Junblatt said: Following the consultations and pending the issuance of important decisions, which will chart the homeland's fate — namely the formation of the constituent body, the implementation of the Lausanne and Geneva conference resolutions, and the escalation of national resistance operations — it was up to us to rally all the national forces in order to confront all circumstances and implement all decisions in preparation for forming the nucleus of the Democratic National Front.

Junblatt added: This meeting was therefore essential for laying down the guidelines for this front, in coordination and consultation with the Amal Movement.

RFL Reports Rocket Attack on Iranian Embassy
NC071615 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Security sources reported that this morning unidentified persons fired a rocket at the Iranian Embassy in Corniche al-Mazra'ah. They exchanged fire with embassy guards for 30 minutes. The socialist gunmen in the area were put on alert because one of their party centers is near the Iranian Embassy.

Army Position in Beirut Rocketed by RPG
NC071355 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] At approximately 1400 today, the Lebanese Army blocked the road leading to Sami as-Sulh Street after one of its positions in the Philips Building was rocketed by an RPG fired from the surrounding area by armed men from West Beirut. One soldier was wounded. In another development, the At-Tayyunah Road was still blocked by Amal gunmen who took up positions in the area.

Explosion Reported in Beirut Area 7 Aug
NC071813 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] A security source has just announced that an explosive charge went off under a Pontiac at 2010. The car was parked near the Ad-Dana station in Sabra. The explosion set the car ablaze and shattered the windowpanes of nearby buildings. A Lebanese Army force cordoned off the area and conducted an investigation to unravel the implications of the incident.

Israeli Vehicle Reportedly Destroyed in South
NC071309 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] An Israeli armored personnel carrier was destroyed in the south this morning when an explosive charge went off as an Israeli patrol was passing east of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah Camp near the town of Al-Miyah wa Miyah. All of the crew members were killed or wounded. The occupation forces cordoned off the scene and mounted a wide-scale combing and arrest operation. An Israeli helicopter was seen evacuating casualties.

Israeli Group Occupies AS-SAFIR Office in South
NC080955 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Persons claiming to be from Israel are occupying the *AS-SAFIR* newspaper office [in the south] after having broken down the doors.

They are calling themselves the Higher Southern Council's Office of the State of Israel for the Establishment of Peace. [Maktab al-Majlis al-Janubi al-A'la li Iqamat as-Salam at-Tabi'li Dawlat Israel]

Israeli Buildup in Western Al-Biqa' Reported
NC071927 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Reports reaching us from the occupied western Al-Biqa'indicate that the Israeli enemy forces continue to set up military positions and to erect new fortifications.

The reports affirm that the enemy forces have linked their positions in the western Al-Biqa'with other positions in the eastern sector through 6-meter by 6-meter trenches to enable free movement of tanks and vehicles.

Other reports from the western Al-Biqa' say the occupation forces have recently brought huge bulldozers to the Ammiq area and have begun digging huge trenches and erecting earth mounds to link them with Israeli positions which were recently built in the eastern sector. It has been learned that the Al-Hasbani Road and the other roads leading to the frontlines were yesterday the scenes of intensive movements by enemy forces, including 150 trucks carrying enemy personnel.

The same reports add that the occupation forces have set up a position opposite the Syrian forces. They also dug trenches in the same area.

The Israeli forces yesterday closed some roads in the western Al-Biqa' to facilitate the passage of an Israel convoy of trailers carrying dozens of tanks. Eyewitnesses said the occupation forces have brought fresh reinforcements to their positions in the western Al-Biqa'. Observers believe that an Israeli military action is imminent.

Defense Minister Talas Views Middle East Situation
PM071015 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 4-10 Aug 84 pp 12-14

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Lieutenant General Mustafa Talas by Huda al-Murr in Damascus — date not given]

[Text] [Huda al-Murr] What was the outcome of your visit to Austria?

[Mustafa Talas] My trip to Austria was a courtesy visit in return for the Austrian Defense Minister's visit to Syria last year.

[Huda al-Murr] Anything besides courtesy?

[Mustafa Talas] The purpose of my visit was also to strengthen economic ties between the two countries and to increase trade.

[Huda al-Murr] Was not the question of Israeli prisoners of war the subject of discussions?

[Mustafa Talas] No, it was not included in the discussions during my recent visit. About a year ago we charged Austria, in agreement with the International Red Cross, with the role of mediator in the exchange of prisoners which took place early last month.

[Huda al-Murr] I am not referring to what happened last month but to the talks which it was said you have held for the exchange of prisoners between the PFLP-GC, that is Ahmad Jibril, and Israel.

[Mustafa Talas] We have nothing to do with this matter.

[Huda al-Murr] What about the complications that occurred in the exchange of prisoners between you and Israel?

[Mustafa Talas] What has this to do with it? The matter was discussed a year ago; it has been completed and the exchange of prisoners took place before my visit to Austria.

[Huda al-Murr] But Israel has protested about the wrong identity of some of the bodies it received.

[Mustafa Talas] That's unimportant. I could not care less if it does not recognize the bodies of its dead. How can Israel recognize the bones of its dead after such a long time? We have sent it a dog's bone. Let it protest as much as it likes.

[Huda al-Murr] During your stay in Austria the question of merging the defense companies and the special units with the Army was raised. What is the reason for raising this subject?

[Mustafa Talas] The media sometimes like to play games. My statement to French television was as follows: The defense companies are part of the Armed Forces, they have been and still are part of the Armed Forces. In other words, their position has not changed. This was what I said, but my words have been interpreted differently. Yes, I repeat now what I said: The defense companies are part of the Armed Forces and they were previously under the Armed Forces. President Hafiz al-Asad is the commander of these forces. So what change has taken place? Nothing.

[Huda al-Murr] How were the defense companies established and what is their role?

[Mustafa Talas] The defense companies mean "unit 569," which is one of the combat units. It was established as a unit for the protection of airports with missiles. Since these are now protected by a full missile brigade [liwa' sawarikh], there is no longer need for the defense companies to remain pinned down for this task; rather their task has become a field task and as such they carry out the tasks they are ordered to carry out by the operations branch.

[Huda al-Murr] What about the Special Forces?

[Mustafa Talas] They too come under the Armed Forces. Anybody wearing the khaki uniform comes under the Armed Forces.

[Huda al-Murr] From whom do these forces take their orders?

[Mustafa Talas] All the Armed Forces, wherever they may be, take their orders from the commander in chief who is President al-Asad or from me in my capacity as the deputy commander in chief. Everything is proceeding normally.

[Huda al-Murr] What about press reports regarding clashes between certain units, such as the defense companies and the Special Forces?

[Mustafa Talas] There is no truth in what has been reported. Of course, there was a feeling of anxiety in the past period but everything has now been settled.

[Huda al-Murr] You mean during President al-Asad's illness?

[Mustafa Talas] Yes, during that time there was a feeling of anxiety in the Armed Forces. Everyone tried to claim that he cares for the President more than the others. We had to tell them: "You are all nice," but there is no need for this anxiety; the president is in good health, so take it easy. The situation then returned to normal.

[Huda al-Murr] Do you believe that there is a military balance between Syria and Israel and can this balance be achieved without Arab participation?

[Mustafa Talas] The Syrian Army has become sufficiently impregnable to constitute a real stumbling block in the face of colonialist expansion. Also the Syrian Army, thanks to President al-Asad, has halted the process of deterioration. Thanks to his patience, faith, and effort President al-Asad has been able to secure for Syria sophisticated combat equipment. As a consequence we have come closer to striking a balance with the enemy and we have become a stumbling block on his path. We are no longer worried. If the enemy tries to strike us we will deal him two blows for one. Also the Soviet Union has given us guarantees that it will not allow anybody to defeat Syria.

[Huda al-Murr] What is your evaluation of the Arab role within this context?

[Mustafa Talas] In the light of our experience in war and in view of the location of the scene of operations in the area, Syria must play the number one role and the rest of the Arab countries come after it. Proceeding from this premise we primarily depend on ourselves, but this does not prevent us from expecting assistance from our Arab brothers which would be an addition to our fighting capability. Although we know that some Arab countries could not possibly fight with us in any war.

[Huda al-Murr] For example?

[Mustafa Talas] Iraq. Its war with Iran will not allow it to fight against Israel. I would like to tell all the Arabs: The United States will not allow any Arab country to become strong. Therefore, it will not allow Iraq to defeat Iran. No, the United States will not allow Iraq to defeat Iran. The reason? Such a victory would make Iraq a major power and would enable it to lead the area. For this reason the United States is in favor of prolonging the war and preventing the Iraq-Iran clash from being resolved in favor of either side. All it wants is to kill both, particularly since the United States is aware that Iran could participate with us in the liberation of Jerusalem. How? By crossing Iraq to engage in liberation. But the United States involved it in this war which henceforth will not allow it to help us.

[Huda al-Murr] But there are contradictory reports regarding the sources of Iranian arms.

[Mustafa Talas] Iran has brought arms from an Argentinian company which bought some of these arms from Israel. I am certain that Iran was not aware that the source of arms was Israel. When Khomeyni realized this he canceled all contracts with that company and stopped dealing with it, despite the fact that the deal was no more than $25 million. What does this figure represent in relation to arming a big army like the Iranian Army? Nothing.

[Huda al-Murr] Do you believe that had it not been for the Iraq-Iran war Iran would have fought for us the battle of liberating Jerusalem?

[Mustafa Talas] Iran is with us in body and in spirit in the liberation of Jerusalem. If the Iraq-Iran war had not broken out the question of the Arab-Israeli conflict would have been resolved in a decisive manner.

[Huda al-Murr] How?

[Mustafa Talas] We stand against Israel. What was the U.S. reaction when the Arabs became so strong as to be feared? It changed the course of the conflict by neutralizing Egypt through Camp David and disengaging it from the Arab-Israeli war. It did the same thing to Iraq by involving it in a battle with Iran, a battle that only God knows when it will end. The United States will not allow an Arab to become strong. I say this at the top of my voice: The U.S. Administration strongly hates the Arab nation; it has a grudge against anything Arab. The United States is in favor of fragmenting Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon. Even in Egypt they tried to arouse sectarian feelings between the Copts and the Muslims, despite the fact that throughout the ages Egypt has been one single state and one single nation. There was never discrimination between a Copt and a Muslim. In 1967 it paid $6 million to build churches with the aim of inciting sectarianism, despite the fact that there are many churches and there is no need for more. Yes, the United States paid this large sum so as to incite conflict between the sons of the same nation. In summary, the United States does not wish the Arabs well but wishes to see them fragmented.

[Huda al-Murr] What are the possibilities of confrontation between Syria and Israel in Al-Biqa'?

[Mustafa Talas] Israel is an entity founded on usurpation, expansion, and aggression. For this reason the state of peace never agrees with this entity. Rather the state of peace destroys the Zionist entity. Consequently, Israel always needs to commit new aggressions to justify its existence. On the basis of this logic and of our knowledge of Israeli strategy we make our calculations on the basis of confrontation with Israel. For this reason I say there is not a single Syrian soldier who is afraid of such confrontation because we have become strong thanks to President al-Asad and the Soviet Union's support. We feel no anxiety or fear of confrontation with Israel.

[Huda al-Murr] What kind of military ties do you have now between you and the Palestinians?

[Mustafa Talas] We are trying to help our Palestinian brothers from a distance; we do not interfere in their private affairs. But after the 1982 battle in Beirut, several nationalist trends emerged. There is a trend that wagers on the U.S. policy. Of course, those who wagered on the U.S. policy have failed; they realized that the United States is in favor of slaughtering the Arabs. The evidence is the fact that the bombs with which Israel struck Beirut in 1982 were U.S.-made. We have established this through the markings on a bomb which said: "Made in California, April 1982." Therefore, this bomb was manufactured in April and was used against Lebanon in June. For this reason I say that those who wagered on the United States have failed. They should have submitted their resignation following their failure so as to enable a new leadership to take over responsibility and follow the course of armed struggle for the liberation of Palestine. They should have done so rather than wager on the United States. The Lebanese resistance is now setting examples to all those whose lands are occupied in how to resist occupation. I can only praise the Lebanese resistance and say: If all the peoples whose lands have been occupied had done what the southern Lebanese are doing, colonialism would have been wiped out forever from the world and Israel's colonialist lust would have ended for good. All that we wish is that our Palestinian brothers should learn from the sons of southern Lebanon how to resist occupation so as to shift this resistance into the heart of the occupied territories where there are more than 1 million Palestinians, particularly since we are ready to provide them with arms and ammunition to fight against Zionist colonialism, and, consequently, to create a new situation inside the Zionist entity that would force Israel to coexist [with the Arabs] and comply with all the UN resolutions.

[Huda al-Murr] The result?

[Mustafa Talas] We are with those who oppose the United States and not those who wager on it. Syria cannot be with those who wager on the U.S. policy nor can anybody fool us, whether he is a Palestinian or Egyptian. When the Palestinians left Tripoli, who cried for them? The Voice of America was foremost among those who cried for them followed by the Voice of the Phalangists, Monte Carlo, London, Paris, and the West German radios. Is it conceivable that all these powers sympathize with those who left Tripoli? Impossible. Let me ask a question: Who can liberate Palestine without depending on Syria? How can the Palestinians liberate their land while ignoring a force consisting of 400,000 soldiers armed with the latest weapons, and regarding us as a neutral force? Syria has sacrificed more martyrs than all the Arabs. If we were to add up all our martyrs since the 1948 war and all the wars up to 1984, we can say that we have sacrificed more than the Egyptians and the Arabs, including the Palestinians.

[Huda al-Murr] How do you want the Palestinians to fight Israel when all the fronts are closed to them, including the Syrian front...

[Mustafa Talas] No, no. Our front is open to every Palestinian who wants to fight the enemy. For our part we provide all the necessary facilities. Tell anyone who wants to fight Israel to please come and fight from the Syrian front. I am prepared to give him protection and ensure everything possible for him to enable him reach his target.

[Huda al-Murr] What about the Lebanese Army? How do you evaluate its position in the light of the appointment of a new commander and the establishment of the military council?

[Mustafa Talas] We hope that the Lebanese Army will learn from the Syrian experience. We have rich experience in building the Armed Forces. Crises have proved that our Army is cohesive and that it is the Army of the whole country.

All that I wish is that the new comander General 'Awn will heed the Syrian experiment and will cooperate with us. We are ready to cooperate with him in building a strong Lebanese Army capable of protecting Lebanon. We wish the Lebanese Army to flourish and to be the Army of everybody rather than be a factional army because this will destroy it and erode it from within.

[Huda al-Murr] Has any coordination or meeting taken place between you and Gen 'Awn?

[Mustafa Talas] So far no meeting has taken place between him and myself. But we hope that this will take place shortly.

[Huda al-Murr] There is much talk about the return of the "deterrent force" to Beirut.

[Mustafa Talas] This is up to the Lebanese Government. When this government wants the "deterrent force" to return it will return. All that I hope for is that the Lebanese Army will be capable of resolving all the problems by itself.

[Huda al-Murr] What is your military attitude toward the Gulf war?

[Mustafa Talas] Syria always wanted to end the war through negotiations, particularly since we have influence on, or rather can talk to, only one side (Iran).

Iran has become an Islamic state and has accepted to join hands with us for the liberation of Jerusalem but war has broken out, a war in which the Arab nation has no interest and which serves only the enemy.

[Huda al-Murr] You did exert efforts to end the war.

[Mustafa Talas] At the beginning of this war President Hafiz al-Asad contacted King Khalid and told him that this war must be stopped. King Khalid's answer then war: "Whatever you wish, Abu Sulayman [Hafiz al-Asad], we are ready." Later President al-Asad contacted King Husayn and told him: "A way must be founud to end this war, Abu 'Abdallah [King Husayn], because it is still at the beginning and it is possible to contain it. But we will not be able to do so when the dead number thousands."

King Husayn's answer was: "I agree with you. Let the Arab foreign ministers meet and issue a statement condemning Iran." Upon which President al-Asad told him: "Why then the meeting if you are determined to condemn? The purpose of the meeting is to end the war and not to condemn one party in favor of the other."

A year later the president was asked to intervene with Iran. He said at the Fes summit meeting: "No, because the balances have changed. He who has sacrificed 100,000 dead will not agree to end the war by kissing the other's moustache." [Arab custom of making peace].

[Huda al-Murr] What is the solution?

[Mustafa Talas] The solution is in the hands of the person who can talk with both sides. That is the one that can influence them. Whoever asks us we say to him: If we can influence Iran we cannot influence Iraq. In the past there was unity between us and Iraq...Give us back this unity and we will then open the [Iraqi] pipelines, we will open our hearts, and the war will come to an end by itself.

[Huda al-Murr] What is your attitude toward the tankers war?

[Mustafa Talas] If Iran commits aggression against any Gulf state, Syria will certainly become a party; it will naturally take the side of the Arab countries. Bearing in mind that we have assurances from Iran that it will absolutely not jeopardize the sovereignty of any Arab state. These assurances were directly given by Khomeyni.

[Huda al-Murr] How do you then explain the attack on some oil tankers?

[Mustafa Talas] This is taking place or has taken place by mistake. [as published]

Damascus Cites Israeli Reinforcements in Al-Biqa'

JN071633 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Beirut — Reports from Lebanon's western Al-Biqa' say that the Zionist enemy's forces are continuing to establish military positions and new fortifications in preparation for an expected aggression against Lebanon and the Syrian forces positioned in Lebanon in an attempt to escape from the Zionist entity's strangling crisis. The same reports assert that the enemy forces linked their positions in western Al-Biqa' to those in eastern Al-Biqa' by immense trenches 6 meters deep and 6 meters wide to allow Zionist tanks and vehicles to move away from Syrian forces' observation.

The reports add that the enemy forces within the past 48 hours brought big bulldozers to the 'Ammiq-Kafrayya axis, dug immense trenches, and established ramparts around them to link them with the Zionist military positions established recently in the eastern sector. News agencies quote eyewitnesses as saying taht the roads in the area, especially (Al-Hasbaniya) Road, which extends to the frontlines, yesterday witnessed intensive movements by the enemy forces including the movement of 150 carriers loaded with enemy troops.

Arrivals from western Al-Biqa' say that the enemy forces recently established a military position on (Mirsil) Hill near the confronation line with the Syrian Arab forces from the direction of Al-Mansurah village. They dug trenches in the area. Arrivals also say that the enemy forces closed some roads yesterday, Monday, to facilitate the movement of Zionist convoys of trucks loaded with many tanks to reinforce enemy positions in Lebanese territory.

Al-Asad Message to Arab Conference on South Africa

JN071730 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 7 Aug 84

["Text" of President Hafiz al-Asad's message to the conference of Arab Soldiarity With Liberation Struggle in South Africa which opened in Tunis on 7 August]

[Text] On behalf of the Arab Syrian people and in my own name, I have the pleasure to greet the conference of Arab Solidarity With Liberation Struggle in South Africa and to express Syria's complete support for its objectives. I believe that the convocation of this conference is an action in the direction we must follow to support the militants in South Africa, who fight racism and racial segregation and struggle for their legitimate rights to freedom and independence.

In Syria, stemming from our principles, we confront and resist racism. After we expelled the colonailists from our country, our stands toward the South African apartheid regime stemmed from our principles — stands that are in harmony with our affiliation with the Arab League and the United Nations. Syria was among the first countries which adhered to a firm stand toward racism in general and toward the apartheid regime in South Africa in particular.

Unity of struggle with the South African people has been reinforced through our confrontation of the Zionist racist regime which Israel embodies and which is linked to the South African apartheid regime by strong ideological, financial, economic, and military ties. The common characteristics between the Zionist racist regime in Israel and the apartheid regime in South Africa, the similarity of their aggressive ways and objectives, and the strong ties between them call on the Arabs and Africans to carry out serious and effective joint action to confront the two regimes. This joint action requires us all to adopt specific stands that can be translated into actions to save the two regions and all mankind from racism.

One of the aspects of this joint action is to study thoroughly through a suitable institution colonialism in the Arab and African regions. The convocation of the conference of Arab Solidarity With Liberation Struggle in South Africa is an opportunity which we must use to reinforce joint struggle against all aspects of racism. Colonialist countries that we are confronting in the Arab and African regions are increasing and strengthening because of the support offered by imperialism to the apartheid regime and the Zionist racial regime. We must unify and redouble our efforts to fight racism and resist colonialism and imperialism.

I hope your conference will be a prominent mark in the march of Arab-African joint struggle against common dangers and enemies. We hope you will succeed in your deliberations and that the conference will achieve its objectives.

Maltese Foreign Minister Arrives in Damascus

JN071923 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus — Maltese Foreign Minister Trigona arrived in Damascus this evening on a visit of a few days. He was received at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar', the director of the Europe Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the director of protocol at the ministry.

Qaddurah Receives Message From Romania's Oprea

JN071340 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1215 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus, 7 Aug (SANA) — 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, received here today the Romanian ambassador in Damascus. The ambassador conveyed a written message from Gheorghe Oprea, Romanian first deputy prime minister concerning implementation of the cooperation and technical cooperation agreements between both countries.

Peres Confers With Shinuy, CRM Leaders

TA071858 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that Prime Minister-Designate Shim'on Peres will try to meet the representatives of Agudat Yisra'el and TAMI as early as tomorrow, in addition to the meeting he is scheduled to hold with the National Religious Party.

This evening Peres conferred with members of Yahad, Shinuy, and the Citizens' Rights Movement [CRM], and he will confer with Ometz members later today. The Shinuy leaders said they would support any government headed by Peres, including a unity government. The CRM's Shulamit Aloni said she had come to express her support for Peres.

MAPAM Stance on Alignment Government Analyzed

TA071222 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1145 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Our party affairs correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that MAPAM will approve Shim'on Peres continuing his efforts on behalf of the entire Alignment to establish a government based on agreed guidelines. In talks between the Alignment and the MAPAM leadership, which lasted over 4 hours, it was agreed that whenever Shim'on Peres reaches agreements with the various parties about forming a government, both partners in the Alignment will again discuss these agreements and MAPAM will determine its stance at that time. Our correspondent says that this is actually MAPAM's earlier decision, which did not change during today's debate and which was meant to enable Shim'on Peres to negotiate on behalf of the entire Alignment, as a large faction to form a government. Without declaring it, MAPAM is in fact backing down from its objection to a government with the Likud.

Kahane, Others Speak at Holy Books Burial

TA080937 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Aug 84 p 1, 8

[David Richardson report]

[Text] Hebron — The burial yesterday of torn pages from several Jewish prayerbooks found last weekend in this town's market was turned into a political event when Jewish settlers, led by newly elected Knesset members, a deputy minister and several rabbis marched throught the streets to inter the holy texts in the Jewish cemetery.

What was first claimed to be "six sacks" of desecrated pages was eventually interred in a single eathern urn covered with a plate of glass. Rabbi Moshe Levinger, the founder-leader of the Jewish return to the ancient City of the Patriarchs, holy to both Jews and Moslems, alleged that these pages had been torn into tiny fragments and spread over "vast" area of the market - something like a square kilometre.

None of the speakers at the ceremony, which was as much a political rally as a religious ritual, doubted for a moment that the pages discovered on the streets of Hebron late last Friday night were desecrated deliberately by Arab residents of the city. One veteran settler, however, said that the pages came from four or five prayerbooks and Bibles discarded by a second-hand dealer in the city's flea market.

Yesterday's ceremony began inside the Cave of the Makhpelah, where, according to tradition, Adam and the Patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and Eve and the Matriarchs Sarah, Rebecca, and Leah are buried. The building is also a mosque revered by Moslems, and large numbers of Israel Defence Troops and border policemen were on hand to prevent incidents. The tomb itself was crowded with pilgrims participating in Tishah Be-Av mourning services.

The troops also surrounded a rally in the square outside the mosque and accompanied the procession up to the cemetery, which overlooks the town. "Of course we took precautions - who knows knows what these crazies could be cooking up?" confided one of the senior officers on the scene.

The "crazies" he was referring to were a motley crowd of perhaps 100 people, some of them bussed in from outside Hebron. They included a large number of Jews formerly from the U.S., Yemen, Morocco and even Ethiopia. Many of the men were armed with at least large automatics stuck into their belts, while others had M-16's, Kalashnikovs and 'Uzi submachine guns slung over their shoulders.

At the rally outside the mosque, two new Knesset members from Qiryat Arba', Rabbis Eli'ezer Waldman and Meir Kahane, addressed the crowd.

"It is unacceptable that Israel's status in Hebron should not find expression in a town of tens of thousands of Jews," Waldman said. "After all, we know that only by the assertion of Jewish-Israeli sovereignty here will things be good for us, for our neighbors and for the whole world."

Deputy Minister Dov Shilansky told the crowd that "wherever holy texts are desecrated, so will the Jewish people be desecrated. Wherever the Torah is torn and cut, so will throats be cut."

The ceremony was supposed to be religious and sad, but Kahane's appearance and words before the crowd prompted applause.

Taking a swipe at many of his associates among the leaders of the Jewish residents in the West Bank, Kahane charged that whoever talks of coexistence with the Arabs is guilty of shedding blood of the Jews killed in Hebron and the desecration of the texts.

"The Arabs are not to blame," he said. "We are, for the primal sin of 1967, when we did not take the God-given opportunity to drive out all the damned from the country."

Kahane also promised to bring his message before the "lily-livered hellenizers in the Knesset, where, with the help of God, I will sit next week."

Levinger, who spoke at the graveside, criticized Kahane for talking of "hellenizers." "We must remember that the temple was destroyed because of unfounded hate. We must remove the term 'mityavnim' (hellenizers) from our lexicon."

But the goateed rabbi who stood next to Kahane appears a distinct moderate, was still outraged by the attitude of the Judaea and Samaria civil administration, which has tried to play down the significance of the discovery of the torn pages. "That is a scandal. We demand tougher, firmer, harsher measures against those who do things like this. Is this the civil administration for the Arabs, or for Islam?" he asked.

After the ceremony ended and the crowd dispersed, there was a minor incident outside a nearby Arab home, when one of the mourners alleged that children in the house had thrown a stone at him. Levinger was on hand, again demanding firmer action. "The ineptitude of the government is responsible for the existence of the underground," he said, referring to the trial of alleged anti-Arab Jewish terrorists now before a court in Jerusalem. "Do you want that to happen again?"

Jewish Group, Kahane Protest Near Temple Mount

TA080816 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Aug 84 p 3

[Excerpt] About 50 members of the "Temple Mount Faithful" staged their traditional Tishah Be-Av demonstration at the Moghrabi [Moors'] Gate near the Al-Aqsa Mosque during prayers yesterday morning. Before the group started its prayers, Gershon Salomon, a leader of the group, denounced the government for not permitting Jews to pray on the Temple Mount. Later, KAKH leader Meir Kahane tried to get through the gate which was locked. But he left after an argument with policemen. Salomon also asked Kahane to leave.

Treasury To Request $5 Billion in U.S. Aid

TA080705 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Aug 84 p 1

[Report by the economic correspondent]

[Text] Israel will present the U.S. with a $5 billion aid request for the coming year, Treasury sources said yesterday.

Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad and Bank of Israel Governor Moshe Mandelbaum are due to visit the U.S. at the end of September and will submit the request, the sources added.

This year Israel will receive $2.6b. in aid from the U.S., all in outright grants. The military-aid portion of this amount is $1.4b., while the remainder is civilian aid. This is a marked improvement over past years, when the military aid was given as loans.

The ninth round of Israel-U.S. talks on a free-trade-zone agreement opened yesterday in Jerusalem. Both sides indicated they would try to finish negotiations by the September 19 target date.

Both sides admit that several obstacles remain, namely the timing for the abolition of customs duties and the question of subsidies for Israeli exports.

Budget Deficit Higher Than Anticipated

TA080723 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Aug 84 pp 1, 2

[Report by economic correspondent Avi Temkin]

[Excerpts] Election economics jacked up the government's deficit by some $306 million in annual terms during the second quarter of the fiscal year.

This emerges from a document presented yesterday by Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad to the Ministerial Economic Committee.

The committee met to approve the adjustment of the budget figures for the second quarter of the fiscal year, as required by the Budget Law. The calls for the Treasury to adjust the budget every three months in keeping with the anticipated rate of inflation.

The ministry document calls for a 45 percent upwards revision of the budget figures to bring them in line with the average prices for the July-September period.

Officially, the Treasury described the adjustment as a "technical" move which would leave the budget sums at the same level in real terms as the original budget. But despite this contention, the budget approved by the committee contains a figure of IS233 billion as government excess of expenditure over revenue for the current fiscal year. At IS278-$1 exchange rate used by the Treasury to adjust the budget, this means that government overspending is now about $840m. as compared to about the $534m. in the original budget approved by the Knesset in March.

Taking into account yesterday's approved adjustment, the government's budget for 1984/85 is now IS6054B. But this figure will be further adjusted in the coming months in keeping with the rates of inflation for the next two quarters.

Transport Minister Optimistic on Suez Mining

TA080846 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0405 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Interview over the telephone with Transport Minister Hayim Corfu by moderator Yitzhaq Ro'e — live]

[Excerpt] [Ro'e] Yesterday you met with Israeli shipping authorities officials to discuss events in the Gulf of Suez. Is Israeli shipping in that area safe?

[Corfu] We met to discuss activity by Israeli shipping companies in the Port of Elat, because the mining of the Gulf of Suez might lead to a temporary paralysis of the port. We discussed the various possibilities with those involved in the Shipping and Ports Department, which is in charge of the shipping companies and

with the Ports Authority. We have concluded that this week's incidents did not do us any real harm. No ships stopped either going to or leaving the Port of Elat.

We believe that in a day or two the waterway will be entirely cleared and things will return to normal.

Ship Allowed To Sail Red Sea

TA080751 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Aug 84 p 1

[Ya'aqov Friedler report]

[Text] Haifa — The Israeli freighter *Moran* has been permitted to proceed to Elat after it was ordered Monday not to enter the Red Sea. The ship, sailing from South Africa, will arrive in the southern port city today or tomorrow.

It was learned that the order was given as a precaution against the mysterious mine explosions which have damaged as many as 13 foreign ships in the Red Sea during the past week and a half.

This was the first change in the schedule of Israeli ships which sail through the Red Sea to and from South Africa and the Far East. The *Moran* is owned by the Tarshish Shipping Company of the Kibbutz Hame'uhad Movement and is operated by Zim.

In Jerusalem, Transport Minister Hayim Corfu yesterday met with officials of the Ports Authority to discuss what effect, if any, the minings are having on Israeli shipping and port activity.

Israeli shipping is a minor factor in the Red Sea traffic now jeopardized by marine mines. Only the Zim company runs a Red Sea service from Elat. There are no other Zim ships now in the Red Sea.

So far no special measures have been taken by Zim, which maintains routine radio contacts with all its ships throughout the world.

Army Blocks Entrance to Lebanese Shi'ite Village

TA071623 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] The IDF has blocked the outskirts of the Shi'ite village of 'Adlun in southern Lebanon with earth mounds. The main entrance to the village was blocked, thus hindering those villagers who want to get out to cultivate their fields.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that this move came in the wake of four recent attacks in the area, and after it was discovered that the terrorists' footsteps led into the village.

IDF officers in the region pointed out that the IDF has been abstaining from imposing collective punishments in Lebanon, but it deviated from custom in this case in order to make it plain to the villagers that they should not collaborate with the terrorists.

IDF Asks Shi'ite Leaders To Counter 'Terrorists'

TA080910 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0405 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Excerpts] The IDF is continuing in its efforts to cope with attacks originating in Shi'ite villages in southern Lebanon. IDF officers met with Shi'ite leaders and asked them to do everything possible to stop the residents from cooperating with terrorist squads. The IDF has prohibited the display of foreign clergymen's pictures, particularly Khomeyni's, in the villages. In Shi'ite villages hundreds of anti-IDF slogans painted on the walls of houses were removed. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports from southern Lebanon.

[Begin recording] Villages such as (An-Nasiriyah), As-Sarafand, Al-Bisariyah, Jab'a, As-Saksakiyah, and others are firmly controlled by the Shi'ite clergymen, who are continuing to call for a jihad. It is very dangerous for the civilian leaders of these villages to meet with the IDF officers. However, the IDF did call them for a meeting and they came. They came because it was clear to them that otherwise the IDF would react to the increasing wave of attacks by taking very drastic measures, such as those taken in the village of 'Adlun.

The IDF officers opened the meeting with the Shi'ites with a warning: What we want in southern Lebanon is security; we do not want anything else from you and, we will try to avoid harming you as much as possible. The Shi'ites gave a clear-cut response: We do not want you here; go back to your own country and leave us alone.

Nevertheless, the village leaders complied with the IDF appeal: They convened rallies on the outskirts of the villages and from the mosque minarets, telling the people to stop attacking the IDF. They did not express their sympathy for Zionism, an Israeli officer said, but we achieved our goal. We believe that the local inhabitants do not want the terrorist squads in their midst, but they are not strong enough to physically resist the scoundrels, as the officer put it.

Liaison Unit Renews Fishing Permits in Tyre

TA071629 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1610 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Southern Lebanon, 7 Aug (ITIM) — The IDF liaison unit in Lebanon renewed the fishing permits of 400 Tyre fishermen this week. Prior to this the liaison unit called a meeting with all the fishermen in Tyre in a bid to ease their work in the ports, and to accommodate the IDF's security needs with the demands of the fishermen.

Artillery Corps Unveils New Acoustic System

TA080727 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Aug 84 p 3

[Joshua Brilliant report]

[Text] A new system for detecting the location of enemy artillery batteries was unveiled yesterday on the eve of the Israel Defence Forces Artillery Corps Day.

The system called "Igloo" employs microphones laid along a front of up to 20 kilometres.

The microphones pick up the shock waves caused by the firing of enemy guns and transmit the information to a centre where the data are computed to determine where the firing came from.

The time it takes the shock waves to reach each microphone helps determine the direction and distance of the enemy batteries.

Artillery Corps commander Tat Aluf [Brigadier General] 'Oded Tira said that ideally, the corps should use drones, or remotely piloted vehicles called RPVs, to locate enemy artillery.

Igloo, which is manufactured by Israel Aircraft Industries, can take into account meteorological reports, as weather can distort the input picked up by the microphones.

A meteorological system used by the IDF for several years but revealed only yesterday employs a hydrogen or helium balloon released with instruments that radio their finding on temperature, humidity and pressure back to the ground.

By noting the direction the balloon travels, wind direction and speed can also be determined.

The Japanese balloon system, called R.D.65, is also used to help IDF gunners aim better.

Tira also said there has been an increase in the use of simulators for training purposes. Budget cuts have led to a reduction in unnecessary training.

Whereas there has been no cut in the training of gunners, who must be better than the enemy to make up for his numerical superiority, there is no need to have all the guns open up during the training of large formations, he said.

Although Western-oriented Arab states have been receiving more weapons and better shells, there has been no significant change in Arab stockpiles, Tira said.

He explained that Western-made cannons are better than their Eastern counterparts because the West must produce more accurate products to overcome the East's numerical superiority.

However, since Israel buys its weapons from the West, the IDF also benefits from the higher quality.

Outgoing British Envoy on Embargo, State Visits
TA071042 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
7 Aug 84 pp 10, 11

[Interview with outgoing British Ambassador Patrick Moberly by Ra'anan Rhein; date and place not given]

[Excerpt] *HADASHOT*: In the last few days of your tour here,the story of the attempted kidnapping of former Nigeria Minister Umaru Dikko has made headlines. Has the involvement of some Israelis in this affair harmed British-Israeli relations?

Moberly: No, I do not think so, as there is no evidence of any official involvement in the affair. The people charged were Israelis acting as private citizens.

HADASHOT: Is there a British arms embargo on Israel?

Moberly: An embargo on the sale of arms has been in effect since 1982. That move came in the wake of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. All the same, the volume of British arms sales to Israel was in any case insubstantial, so it had no practical effect. Right now our attitude toward that embargo is more flexible.

HADASHOT: Several months ago the possibility that the British foreign secretary would visit Israel was considered. The date of the visit was postponed because of the Israeli election. Will the visit take place now?

Moberly: Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe would have liked to come here. If it is possible, he will come later this year, but that naturally depends on an invitation from the new government here. We must wait until a new government is able to begin to invite foreign ministers.

HADASHOT: When President Herzog was in London recently did he invite the queen to visit Israel?

Moberly: As I understand it, President Herzog said that the queen would be a most welcome guest here, if she comes, but I do not believe a formal invitation was issued.

HADASHOT: How, then, can one explain the fact that the queen has visited several Arab countries, including our neighbor Jordan, yet has not visited Israel?

Moberly: She was invited to visit those countries. In the specific case of Jordan, the invitation to her was extended many years ago, and only early this year did she make the visit.

Portuguese-Speaking Countries Foreign Ministers Meet

Mozambique's Chissano Speaks

MB061156 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Minister of Foreign Affairs Joaquim Chissano defended in Bissau yesterday the eradication of the evils left by colonialism by more efficient cooperation and in the interest of peoples of the five Portuguese-speaking African countries.

The head of the Mozambican diplomacy, who was speaking at the opening of the ministerial meeting, stressed that the five countries have already taken a qualitative step in cooperation and it is now possible to state that they are on the right path, believing in the certainty of victory.

Minister Joaquim Chissano stated that apartheid must be eliminated as soon as possible and said that this policy represents the great focus of tension in southern Africa.

Chissano also demanded the cessation of the invasions of Western Sahara and East Timor.

Guinea Bissau Minister Speaks

MB061514 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Comrade Paulo Teixeira Jorge, the Angolan minister of external affairs, has been taking part since yesterday in a meeting of foreign ministers of the Portuguese-speaking African countries.

At the opening session of the conference, Julio Semedo, the foreign minister of Guinea Bissau, pointed out that the African conflicts, particularly the conflicts of Western Sahara and Chad, constituted the main obstacles to the establishment of stability in the OAU.

Referring to southern Africa, the foreign minister of Guinea Bissau underlined the commitment of the five to a negotiated solution to the Namibian conflict. He gave as an example the support granted by the five to the Nkomati Accord between Mozambique and South Africa and the Lusaka pledges between the Governments of the People's Republic of Angola and Pretoria. The support of the five for the struggle of the peoples of Namibia and South Africa for independence and for the abolition of apartheid and peace in the region was once again reaffirmed at the meeting. This meeting of the five Portuguese-speaking African countries is devoted to the examination of the world situation, particularly the situation in southern Africa, diplomatic relations between the respective governments, and the level of the implementation of the recommendations of the last summit of the heads of state. The issue of East Timor is also included on the agenda.

The Angolan minister of external affairs left for Guinea Bissau from the Republic of Bourkina Fasso, formerly Upper Volta, where he attended that country's revolution day celebrations.

Angolan Minister Addresses Summit

MB080852 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The Angolan minister of external affairs, Paulo Jorge, who is attending the summit of the ministers of foreign affairs of the Portuguese-speaking African countries in Bissau, day before yesterday addressed the forum to discusss the internal situation of the People's Republic of Angola. The head of the Angolan diplomatic service centered his address on the criminal activity of the UNITA puppet groups inside Angola and said it was necessary to unite efforts to neutralize the armed bandits who want to annihilate the gains already achieved by the Angolan people.

In this context, the ministers of foreign affairs of the five Portuguese-speaking African countries reiterated their support and solidarity for all actions that aim to neutralize the armed bandits not only in Angola but also in Mozambique.

In the session held day before yesterday the ministers of foreign affairs analyzed international issues, particularly southern Africa, the Western Sahara, the Middle East, and Central America. The issue of East Timor was supposed to be discussed yesterday in more depth.

LIBYA

Armed Forces Official Meets DPRK Chief of Staff

LD080719 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Brigadier Mustafa al-Kharrubi, inspector general of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, met General O Kuk-yol, chief of the General Staff of the DPRK People's Armed Forces, who is visiting the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Today Gen O Kuk-yol visited Mi'itiqah Air Base and placed a bouquet at the memorial for the martyrs of the [word indistinct] battle.

MAURITANIA

Haydala Discusses Morocco, Drought, Economy

PM071329 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 5,6 Aug 84 p 9

[Interview with President Lieutenant Colonel Khouna Ould Haydala by Pietro Petrucci in Nouakchott; date not given]

[Excerpts] Nouakchott, August — An "anti-sand brigade" equipped with Italian experts and machinery will soon go into action to protect Mauritania's roads from the permanent threat of moving dunes. This is perhaps the most spectacular of the many projects contained in the first cooperation package signed in Nouakchott 31 July by Italy's under secretary for Africa, Mario Raffaelli. As regards Italian cooperation — which already allocates a major proportion of its funds (about $700 million) to the Sahel countries struggling against the desert — Mauritania is virtually unexplored territory. What is very well known, however, is the situation affecting this vast country, which acts as a link between the Maghreb and black Africa — three times as large as Italy, 90 percent desert, Mauritania is now trying to wrest from the encroaching desert the 10 percent of useful land that enables its population of 1.5 million to survive.

The defense of the rural economy is the chief objective pursued by Italian cooperation — with the launching of the agricultural and livestock plans and a project for aid in the field of "basic medicine" (the first line of defense against malnutrition). The other main points in the agreement are the drafting of a plan for nationwide management of drinking water; action for the Mauritanian national center for the development of alternative energy forms; and the supply of a freezing plant for the fish trade (the great hope of the Mauritanian economy, together with iron).

Italian diplomats in Nouakchott have not discussed cooperation alone. It is no secret that our country (precisely by virtue of its "big giver" policy) has become in recent years one of Africa's major Western partners. Our diplomats conduct a dialogue even with the most isolated regimes (Addis Ababa now regards Italy as its special interlocutor) and closely follows the most intractable conficts, such as those in the Horn of Africa and southern Africa. The first Italian Government representative ever to have visited Nouakchott, Raffaelli broached with Mauritanian President Khouna Ould Haydala the very delicate issue of the Western Sahara.

What worries Lieutenant Colonel Haydala more — the desert or the king of Morocco? The Mauritanian president smiled: "Those threats are one of the many expedients invented by Morocco to drag us back into war. But we have calm nerves. No, we will not fall into the trap."

Born in the Western Sahara 44 years ago, and trained as a soldier at Saint Cyr, Lt Col Haydala was a national hero in the Saharan war and knows what he is talking about. "To end this most stupid war," he said, "we waged the 1978 war and recognized the Polisario Front's rights in 1979. The Mauritanians have other things to think about — drought, famine, the desert. We have stopped fighting but we have not succeeded in demobilizing a single soldier, because we feel that our territorial integrity is threatened."

[Petrucci] But is it true, as Hassan says, that you are the Polisario Front's supply line?

[Haydala] Morocco persists in searching for the Polisario Front where it is not to be found. Actually the Moroccans cannot annihilate the guerrillas. Even the famous "wall" that they have built south of Dakhla, facing us, will continue to be crossed and encircled by Polisario Front units. [Haydala ends]

Peace is one of the foundations on which the populist Haydala has built his political prestige. Another is his acknowledged personal honesty — a very rare commodity. Yet another is the bridge built between the Moorish (Arab-Berber) oligarchy that holds the power and the other half of the population (black African) that until recently provided the slaves and cannon fodder. Haydala abolished slavery in 1980 and has institutionalised the use of the traditional African languages. He is a liberal and a moralizer, and yet Amnesty International accuses his regime of illegal arrests and torturing of oppositionists.

"I cannot understand what the Western public is worried about," Haydala said, angrily. "It is said that there are 350 political prisoners, whereas the only arrests made total 20, date back to February, and are comparable, legally speaking, to you Europeans' arrests of Basques, Irish, Red Brigades members.... Torture? Go and ask the ministers of the former regime, which we overthrew in 1978. They are all free citizens and able to reply."

Perhaps. At the moment Haydala prefers to talk about development rather than war and civil rights. "Cooperation with Italy," he complained, "should have taken off some years ago. We are aware of what you are doing in Africa and believe that you can give us valuable help in priority sectors such as rural development, water management, and fishing. It was time we started."

MOROCCO

Guinea Foreign Minister on Sahara Issue

LD061502 Rabat MAP in English 1205 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Rabat Aug 6 (MAP) — "We must abide by the resolution of the 19th summit conference of the organization of a referendum" in the Sahara, declared Guinean Foreign Minister Facine

Toure. In an interview to the Casablanca-based pro-governmetal daily *MAROC SOIR*, Mr Facine Toure who was on a visit to Morocco at the head of a Guinean delegation outlined that the "Sahara issue is a sharp and worrying problem as it had threatened to split the OAU on many occasions".

"As long as the OAU does not go back on its previous resolutions, I think that we must abide by the 19th summit's resolution on the Sahara according to which a cease-fire should be implemented and afterwards a referendum be organized," Mr Toure said.

About a Guinean mediation in this issue, the foreign minister indicated, "We are trying to use all our means and all our relations with brotherly and friendly countries with a view to finding a satisfactory settlement to this problem which has been paralysing the OAU for some time".

"We have never stopped our mediation," he said. "We consult all friendly countries, one by one, and we request from any one to do what it can to settle the issue...We have been playing the role of mediator since we came to power". Evoking bilateral relations, Mr Facine Toure said these relations be they political, cultural, economic or social, are good. "This is why we visited Morocco several times in less than three months", he said. He added that the Guinean delegation's visit to Morocco was aimed at "defining the general framework of bilateral cooperation as well as the working methods of the newly created Moroccan-Guinean cooperation agency". With the help of this agency, he added, the two countries will establish an exemplary, frank, sincere and fruitful cooperation that will benefit the Moroccan and Guinean peoples.

SUDAN

SSU Official on Soviet-Backed Plots

JN071115 Khartoum SUNA in English 1015 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Khartoum, August 7, (SUNA) — The first secretary of the central leadership of the Sudanese Socialist Union (SSU), Muhammad 'Abd al-Qadir 'Umar, has accused neighbouring Libya and Ethiopia of plotting against Sudan under the supervision of the Soviet Union. Addressing a plenary meeting of the national action leadership at the SSU headquarters here yesterday, 'Umar said Libya escalated its plotting against Sudan after the signing of Aden agreement in 1981 between South Yemen, Libya and Ethiopia which was concluded under the directives of the Soviet Union.

'Umar accused Libya of harbouring terrorists and "of plotting to assassinate President Numayri, the first vice-president, liquidation of the political and military leadership in order to topple the regime and to establish what is so called a Jamahiriyah in accordance with Al-Qadhdhafi's theory".

He pinpointed five Sudanese opposition groups based in Ethiopia and Libya and backed by their two governments to carry out conspiracies against Sudan. 'Umar said the plotting against Sudan included political assassinations, blowing up of strategic and vital installations, escalating provocation by exploiting internal circumstances particularly in the southern and western regions and infiltration of saboteurs.

He said Sudan's state security is currently monitoring new plots worked out two weeks ago in Tripoli in addition to Libyan endeavours to dispatch suicide groups to Sudan through our eastern and western borders and through the legal inlets of the country with the aim of carrying out subversive activities and political assassinations. 'Umar said the state security had intercepted Libyan instructions directed to some elements and groups inside the country or trying to infiltrate through the eastern and western borders. He said analysis had shown that the intercepted messages were instructing the groups to carry out subversive operations on vital targets in the country.

'Umar said the state security had intercepted Libyan instructions directed to some elements and groups inside the country or trying to infiltrate through the eastern and western borders. He said analysis had shown that the intercepted messages were instructing the groups to carry out subversive operations on vital targets in the country. "In view of this situation, all indications confirm that the situation is very dangerous especially if we took into consideration some political and economic internal problems", 'Umar said. "The hazards which the Sudan's revolution is facing, emanate from the fact that it was deliverately planned by a superpower known for invading and suppressing people", he added.

He said the plot was woven in the Soviet-masterminded Aden conference in 1981 which was aimed at removing differences between various Sudanese opposition groups to use them against the legitimate government in Sudan. 'Umar said the plot was coupled by wide-scale subversive operations carried out by other groups who were trained by the Libyan People's Bureaus in surrounding countries. He called on the political organization to launch an effective campaign in coordination with the security efforts to foil what he called the Satanic designs. He also urged the citizens to keep an open eye on the comers in their vicinity and to report to the concerned authorities if they notice suspicious movement or a tangible disappearance of food stuff.

Briefs

Outgoing Ambassadors — Khartoum, 7 Aug (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri received here today the Vatican, Omani, and Egyptian ambassadors in Khartoum separately on the occasion of the end of their terms of office in Sudan. [Excerpt][Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 7 Aug 84 JN]

TUNISIA

Conference on Arab-African Solidarity Reported

LD071525 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] The event of the day in Tunisia will have positive ramifications on the course of Arab-African solidarity. The work of Arab Solidarity With the Liberation Movements in Southern Africa

Conference opened this morning at the Conferences Palace in the capital. It was attended by Chedli Klibi, general secretary of the Arab League, Yasir 'Arafat, head of the PLO, and Enuga S. Reddy, UN assistant secretary general and head of the Center Against Apartheid.

Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi, welcomed participants in the conference in the name of Tunisia. He stressed that Tunisia, since independence, has given the liberation movements first priority. He pointed out that the convening of this conference in our country means (?the recognition), which the liberation movements give to President Habib Bourguiba in his capacity as doyen of the Arab and African strugglers. He then stressed that the convening of the conference is a clear indication of the depth of solidarity between the Arabs and Africans to destroy colonialism and realize a better tomorrow.

When he reviewed Arab-African relations, Beji Caid Essebsi noted that the African people joined with the Arabs following the Israeli aggressions against the Arab territories, and adopted many decisions and postures that increased Israel's isolation at international level. Also, the Arabs still support the African causes. He added that Tunisia understands the difficulties some of the African confrontation line countries face as a result of their backing for the liberation movements in the region. Tunisia believes the regime of South Africa still exists on racial-colonial basis — a matter which demands helping the liberation movement in southern Africa until there is freedom and independence. Beji Caid Essebsi then praised the efforts exerted by the United Nations in lifting the injustice of Namibia, and challenging the procrastination of Pretoria's regime in granting Namibia independence. He called for mobilization of world public opinion for this issue, that all UN resolutions regarding the Namibian issues are speedily implemented and to tighten the boycott of the regime of South Africa, economically and politically.

Chedli Klibi, general secretary of the Arab League, expressed the league's total support for the liberation movements in South Africa, a matter which stems from the historic and geographical ties which unify Arabs and Africans. He then turned to the repressive policy pursued by the regime of South Africa. He noted that the policy is centered on racial discrimination, as well as destruction in the neighboring countries allegedly in pursuit of revolutionaries on the [words indistinct]. Proof of Pretoria's racist policy is its continuation of occupying part of Angolan territory. He added that the Arab League, as spokesman for the will of the Arab nation, affirms the necessary immediate implementation of UN Resolution No 435, without any amendments or procrastination, considering it the key to solving the Namibian issue.

The general secretary of the Arab League reviewed the existing relationship between the two racist regimes in Israel and South Africa and the suffering of the two peoples, Palestinian and Namibian, from the bitter colonialism and racial discrimination. He pointed out that this coincidence in suffering demands from the Arab and African sides principled commitments to these two causes. He called for new methods to be adopted to achieve actual support for the Palestinian and Namibian peoples which goes beyond principled statements.

As for Yasir 'Arafat, he noted in his speech that this conference practically embodies the solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian and Namibian people for regaining their rights. He called for increased vigilance in both Africa and the Arab countries, and adherance to solidarity to realize the joint victories against colonialism. He said: The Namibian issue is an Arab cause with regard to the Arabs. He called on the African people from their side to close their doors to Israel so it will not to be able to penetrate the African Continent.

The head of the Committee for Combatting Racial Discrimination at the outset of the conference delivered a speech in which he reviewed Arab-African relations, which have historical and geographical roots. He called on the United Nations to fully shoulder its responsibilities regarding the Palestinian and Namibian issues.

Mubarak Sends Message

NC071531 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1455 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Tunis, 7 Aug (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has called on all the people of the world to unite and end the illegitimate and inhuman situation in South Africa by stopping the illegal occupation of Namibia and by supporting its people's struggle for independence against Pretoria's racist regime. This came in a message President Mubarak addressed to the Conference of Arab Solidarity with the Liberational Struggle of Southern African, which began in Tunis today. It is organized by the UN Special Committee on Combatting Racial Discrimination with the cooperation of the Arab League.

President Mubarak stressed in his message, read by Committee Chairman General (Jarba) at the opening session of the conference, Egypt's presistent demand for the immediate and complete withdrawal of Pretoria's racist regime from Namibia. He also stressed the full support of the Egyptian people and government for the fraternal Namibian people's struggle under SWAPO, their legitimate and sole representative, to attain real and complete independence for this fraternal African country.

President Mubarak pointed out in his message to the Conference of Arab Solidarity With the Liberational Struggle of Southern Africa that the Pretoria racist regime's dealings with the Namibian people, the owner of the land and the homeland, from the premise of racial superiority violates all international charters and values and all the noble values of divine laws and religions which prohibit discrimination among men. It is also a blatant violation of man's dignity, value, and sanctity.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Foreign Minister Denounces Moroccan Policy

LD072025 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] The SDAR foreign minister strongly denounced attempts by King Hassan II to widen the war in the Western Sahara to other countries of the area. In this connection, Ibrahim Hakim noted that the Moroccan threat to implement the right of pursuit

into Mauritanian soil will have serious consequences on the northwestern area of Africa. He added that extending the war to another country will inevitably affect the other neighboring countries. The SDAR foreign minister said that the countries of the international community, particularly France, should think carefully about the seriousness of the developments which would result from the Moroccan policy before it is too late.

Saharan Report of Moroccan Losses in Recent Clashes

LD071200 Algiers APS in English 1050 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] SDAR 7 Aug 84 (APS) — Sixteen soldiers of Moroccan forces were killed and twenty five were wounded during a series of attacks led as from 1st to 4th August by the Sahraoui combatants against the positions of the occupant, a communique from the Sahraoui minister of information and culture said.

These attacks, the communique underlined took place in Rous Jachbien and Mahbes Jneinat, between Zag and Jdiria in Fadrat (J'dari), in zone of Amgala, in Dakhla, (Am'gueissem Lamar) and (Tachkent) in west of Dakhla and (Rous Amaguid), near Jdiria and in Tarf el Khechbi as well as in (M'Zeriga), near Haouza. The communique underlined, on the other hand, the destruction of radar, two mortars of 120 m, two vehicles, land rover, one lorry and a mortar of 81 mm, one battery [of] bi-tubes of 23 mm, and a deposit of munitions.

DJIBOUTI

Country Concerned Over Incidents, Ready to Hold Talks

NC071327 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1155 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 7 Aug (MENA) — Djibouti has expressed concern over the incidents that some ships have witnessed in the Red Sea and has declared that it is ready to hold talks with the Red Sea littoral states on this subject. A press statement by Moumin Bahdon Farah, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and released by the Djibouti Interests Mission in Cairo, stressed that his country adheres to its policy based on neutrality, understanding, and good-neighborliness with the Red Sea littoral states. The statement denounced any attempt to endanger the region's security and safety or to obstruct navigation in the Red Sea.

ETHIOPIA

GDR Newspaper Interviews Goshu Wolde

AU041444 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2 Aug 84 p 6

[Interview of Foreign Minister Goshu Wolde by *NEUES DEUTSCHLAND* correspondent Thomas Burmeister; time and place not given]

[Text] Question: Comrade Minister, how do you assess the development level in your country on the eve of the 10th anniversary of the Ethiopian revolution?

Answer: The culminating point of the 10th anniversary will be the formation of a strong Marxist-Leninist vanguard party qualified to take the lead in implementing the great aims of the Ethiopian people. We are convinced that it will further strengthen the achievements of the Ethiopian revolution made so far and consolidate the ranks of the forces of peace, democracy, and socialism in the world.

The pride with which we are preparing the anniversary and the party foundation is based on achievements in the political, social, economic, and military field. The Ethiopian revolution succeeded in organizing the working masses in democratic associations — the peasants' association, the trade unions, the associations of the city residents, the revolutionary associations of youth and women, and the vocational organizations, for instance, the All-Ethiopian Teachers' Associations. Everything that the revolution has achieved so far was only possible through comprehensive political work among the masses, through propagation of the Marxist-Leninist ideology with the assistance of these mass organizations.

Great Changes in All Fields

On the economic front the revolution was able to achieve essential successes despite all attacks of its enemies, despite sabotage and banditry organized by imperialism. On the eve of the 10th anniversary of the revolution we witness the construction of numerous new industrial enterprises. Among them the cement plant of Muger and the textile combine in the Wollo Region. In both projects GDR aid is of great importance.

In the social field we have also achieved important progress, in particular in the education and health sectors. Today basic and advanced education is very widespread in the country, and the number of students and new school buildings has increased. The illiteracy rate, which was about 93 percent at the beginning of the revolution, has been decreased in the meantime to 37 percent. In the health sector we are working to create the foundations for medical care for all Ethiopians.

Question: How do you assess the level of the relations between the GDR and Ethiopia in connection with the anniversaries which our peoples will celebrate in the near future?

Answer: Very positively. Since the GDR has been founded as the first socialist state on German soil, its name has always been identical with peace, progress, and cooperation. In less than half a century of socialist construction the GDR has made enormous progress in all fields and increased the living standard of the people considerably and developed at the same time into one of the leading industrial nations of the world.

Support for The Perspective Plan

In accordance with its internationalist responsibility, the GDR developed into a strong guarantor of peace in Europe, and it consistently supports friendly relations and cooperation among the nations of the world.

The Ethiopian revolution, which overthrew the decadent feudal system in our country, also paved our country's road at the side of the community of socialist states and thus at the same time opened a new chapter of relations between Ethiopia and the GDR. The support of the GDR for Ethiopia in solving its most urgent problems and its readiness to participate in implementing the 10-year perspective plan are concrete examples of the very strong economic relations between our fraternally allied countries.

The growing relations between the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia and the SED [Socialist Unity Party of Germany] have created a firm political-ideological basis for cooperation between the GDR and Ethiopia.

The peoples of the GDR and Ethiopia, who greatly benefit from our countries' constantly growing relations, will therefore celebrate the GDR's 35th foundation anniversary and the Ethiopian revolution's 10th anniversary in a spirit of close affinity and proletarian internationalism.

Question: Comrade Minister, what is your view on the causes of the aggravation of the international situation and the growing tensions in the region of the Indian Ocean which also concern Ethiopia?

Answer: The most important causes are, according to our view, the despicable actions of imperialism in the most diverse regions of the world. It is very clear that the territorial integrity and independence of a number of countries, even their existence as states, is seriously threatened by imperialist military bases that shoot up like mushrooms. What happened in Grenada and what is being planned against Nicaragua are examples of how imperialism attempts to subjugate in particular smaller nations. The escalation of the arms race has become a threat to peace and security in the world. And the aggressive attitude of the present government in the United States has created an extremely unfavorable situation for progress in the direction of detente.

Indian Ocean Must Become Zone of Detente

The dangerous situation in our region is also the result of such imperialist action. American imperialism is now setting up a so-called central operation commando in the region in order to even further expand its military superiority. Here in our country anti-Ethiopian and counterrevolutionary movements are supported that regard it as their task to destabilize the government and thus derail the Ethiopian revolution.

The peace-loving and progressive forces devote their entire attention and support to the task of making the Indian Ocean free from arms and military activities. It is the aim of all socialist states and all peace-loving peoples of the world to let the Indian Ocean become a zone of peace and not a zone of confrontation. Socialist Ethiopia is doing everything within its power to achieve this aim.

SOMALIA

Radio Halgan Reports DFSS Battle Success

EA062042 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Units from the ninth division of General Ayanshe of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] killed eight loyalist Barre soldiers and wounded 10 others during a clash at (El Mudan) base in Ghel Gudut region at the beginning of this week, according to reports reaching us. The heroic fighters of the front inflicted heavy losses on the regime's soldiers.

The hated one-man regime of General Siad Barre shot dead 20 soldiers at Dusamareeb town in late July. Radio Halgan's reporter in Ghel Gudut region who filed this report said that the soldiers were shot dead after they defied orders to fight opposition forces. Our reporter adds that the 20 soldiers who were shot were remnants of soldiers who were defeated in the (Baliat) fighting between the DFSS fighters and Barre's forces on 27 July 1984.

UGANDA

Country Reportedly Suspends U.S. Military Pact

EA072013 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Uganda has suspended its military cooperation agreement with the United States. A Ugandan Government official said this was in retaliation for critical remarks made in Washington condemning the country's human rights record.

The suspension of the agreement, the international military, educational, and training scheme, and the declaration of Colonel Baker, the U.S. military attache in Malawi, as a prohibited immigrant [as heard] were confirmed by the U.S. Embassy in Kampala.

Power Cut in Kampala Caused by Gunmen

EA071128 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1000 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Kampala: The Ugandan capital, Kampala, and many towns throughout the country have been without electricity since last Friday [3 August] following a breakdown of the national power plant. The government has not commented on the cause of power failure, but sources in Kampala say gunmen destroyed a high voltage cable a few kilometers outside the capital on Friday evening.

Vice President Leaves for Visits to DPRK, PRC

EA071959 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Summary] Vice President Paulo Muwanga has left for official visits to the DPRK and China. He is accompanied by the minister of state in the prime minister's office, Mr Edward Rurangaranga.

Briefs

Sudanese Ambassador Dies — Sudanese Ambassador to Uganda Mr Abdallah Muhammad 'Uthman died in Kampala last night. Prayers for the repose of his soul are now being held at the main Muslim mosque in Uganda on the Old Kampala Hill. [Text][Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 6 Aug 84 EA]

CONGO

Ange Edouard Poungui Appointed New Prime Minister

AB071734 Paris AFP in French 1715 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 7 Aug (AFP) — Ange Edouard Poungui was on Tuesday appointed Congolese prime minister by the Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Party (PCT, sole party) after an extraordinary session, the final communique issued after the deliberations announced.

Mr Poungui succeeds Colonel Louis-Sylvain Goma, who has been appointed chairman of the Constitutional Council. The Central Committee also appointed a secretariat.

Regional Security Conference Opens in Togo
AB061746 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Excerpts] An international conference on peace and security began this morning at the party house in Lome. Anani Kuma Akakpo-Ahianyo, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, opened the session in the presence of officials from ministries of interior and foreign affairs of four West African countries, namely Benin, Ghana, Nigeria, and Togo, as well as many members of the Central Committee of the Rally of the Togolese People [RPT].

Mr Akakpo-Ahianyo in his address stressed the importance of consolidating international cooperation. While welcoming the different delegations on behalf of President Gnassigbe Eyadema, Mr Ahianyo stated that the RPT and the people of Togo are happy to host this conference, the importance of which is recognized by all the governments being represented. He said these governments are all aware that fundamental aspirations lie in peace and security. To Minister Ahianyo, robbers, burglars, and bandits will not be welcome in either Togo, Nigeria, Benin, or Ghana where they will seek refuge after committing their heinous crimes.

[Begin Ahianyo recording] Honorable ministers, colleagues, and delegates: Our heads of state, in their wisdom and exceptional foresight, have realized the need to organize this important meeting, and have decided to take up their responsibilities toward their peoples by entrusting us with the task of searching for ways and means to strenghten security, which is the guarantor of peace and stability in our four sister countries. Our countries, like others all over the world, are facing serious economic difficulties in spite of relentless efforts by our governments to correct the situation. The prime objective of our young states is the achievement of their economic and socia! development. But how can we achieve this aim amidst insecurity and instability when our progress is hampered all the time by events and situations which affect the security of our nations and compromise peace and stability in the subregion? This shows that all our fundamental aspirations — peace, calm, stability, development, eradication of famine and disease, search for well-being — depend on security in our respective countries and borders.

Honorable ministers, colleagues, and delegates, there can scarcely be a consensus where there is open debate, but we know that it is through discussion and exchange of ideas that we find solutions to problems. Robbers, bandits, smugglers, and those for whom subversion is a hobby must know by the end of our deliberations that they will no longer benefit from impunity in any of our countries after committing their crimes in another. They should know that whether they seek asylum in Benin, Ghana, Nigeria, or Togo, the same law against banditry will be applied throughout these countries. [applause] [end recording]

Present at this meeting were the Beninese minister of interior, Edouard Zodehougan; Ghana's minister of foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, and minister of interior, Kofi Djin [titles as heard]; Nigeria's minister of foreign affairs, Dr Gambari, and minister of interior, Brigadier Magoro; and Togo's minister of interior, Kpotivi Tevi-Djidjogbe Lacle.

BOURKINA-FASSO

Sankara Receives Cuban, USSR, PRC, Other Delegations
AB062258 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Excerpts] The delegations of friendly countries which took part in the festivities marking the first anniversary of the August revolution are about to leave Ouagadougou. Before their departure, some of these delegations were received by President Sankara late this morning at the Presidential Palace. They were notably the Cuban, PRC, DPRK, Beninese, USSR, and Libyan delegations. The talks which Comrade Sankara held with these officials centered on the excellent relations existing between Bourkina-Fasso and those countries and on the efforts to consolidate our revolution with the help of progressive countries such as Cuba, the PRC, Benin, the DPRK, the USSR, and Libya.

On this occasion Comrade Thomas Sankara had a last meting with all the guests of the Bourkinans in a speech in which he expressed his satisfaction with the solidarity shown by all these people who enhanced the brilliance of the activities marking the first anniversary of the popular and democratic revolution in Bourkina-Fasso:

[Begin Sankara recording] Dear friends who came from all parts of the world to take part with the people of Bourkina-Fasso in the celebrations of this first anniversary: I am very pleased to express on behalf of the Bourkinan people our gratitude and our solidarity with the people whom you have successfully represented here.

Following the intense activities in which you have taken part, you have realized that it is possible to establish brotherly and friendly ties between the peoples if we make use of what we have in common instead of paying attention to our differences — there arebound to be differences between peoples. You have also given the proof that the people of Bourkina-Fasso are not isolated, and that they deserve your regards, your respect, and your friendship.

You see, in agreeing to come here, you have provided a flat denial to those enemies of Africa who have been trying to create opposition among us or isolate us. Among the many delegations present, some countries are attending celebrations in Bourkina-Fasso for the first time. This demonstrates their desire for change and their sincere desire to establish links with the people and the youth of Bourkina-Fasso. We hail them.

You will soon go home. Allow me once again to entrust you with a mission after the great work you have done. As you are returning home, I would like you all to tell your respective peoples that the roads leading to Ouagadougou are wide and have been consecrated by the friendship which you have initiated yourselves; tell them also that contrary to what is being said and proclaimed, the Bourkinan people expect concrete actions from you all in order to achieve true friendship and sound, lasting peace. The revolution, as a science for the qualitative and profound transformation of the society, is a fact for us which opposes no one but our common enemies. [end recording]

GHANA

Rawlings Returns From Bourkina-Fasso Celebrations

AB060730 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, has returned home from Ouagadougou, capital of Bourkina-Fasso, where he took part in the celebrations marking the first anniversary of that country's revolution.

41 Scholarship Recipients To Study in USSR

AB061040 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] A sendoff party was organized by the Ghana-Soviet Friendship Society [Ghasof] at the Soviet cultural center in Accra at the weekend for 35 Ghanaian students who have won the 1984-85 Soviet Government scholarship to study in the Soviet Union. The award winners, all members of the society, will study in selected Soviet institutions in various fields including geology, journalism, medicine, and engineering, civil and mechanical.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr N. Kotey, of the Higher Education Secretariat, emphasized the need for the students to apply themselves seriously to their studies since their chosen fields were among the priority areas of the country's manpower needs. Mr Kotey noted that the Soviet gesture is one of the many fruits of cooperation between Ghana and the USSR and urged the students to make a conscious effort to help promote this spirit for Ghana's rapid development.

The general secretary of Ghasof, Mr Opare Ababio, advised the students to comport themselves as worthy ambassadors of Ghana during their stay in the Soviet Union, always remembering their duty to come back after their studies to serve the society and their motherland. He reminded them to maintain the objectives of the society and stressed that even the little contribution they will give for the development of the country on their return would be duly recognized.

The Soviet ambassador to Ghana, Mr. V.M. Semenov, congratulated the students and hoped they would take their studies seriously so that they would come back to contribute meaningfully to Ghana's progress. He noted that the Soviet Union is playing an important role in the training of foreign specialists who would help speed up social and economic progress of their countries and thus strengthen their national independence.

Forty-one Ghanaian students won the award to study in the Soviet Union last year.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Briefs

Envoys Present Letters — The chairman of the Council of State, Brigadier General Joao Bernardo Vieira, on Saturday received the letters of credence of the new PLO representative to Guinea-Bissau, Ahmad Hammad, and the new French ambassador, Louis Bouroux. [Excerpt] [Bissau *NO PINTCHA* in Portuguese 25 Jul 84 p 3 AB]

LIBERIA

More Political Parties Likely To Be Formed

AB062050 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Two more political parties are likely to be launched. Reports today say that a group has announced its intention to register a political party to be known as the First All-Integrated Republican Party. The chairman of the dissolved constitutional advisory assembly, Dr Edward Kesselly, says he will run for the presidency on the ticket of a party to be named later. These two appointments bring to seven the number of political parties in the making in the Republic of Liberia. Mr Edwin Dunba, a former deputy minister of the dissolved Ministry of Action, Development and Progress, is the interim chairman of the First All-Integrated Republican Party. He told the *DAILY OBSERVER* newspaper, coming on the newsstand after 6 months of closure, that the membership of his organization comprises of patriotic Liberians in and out of Liberia. Dr Kesselly said his decision to run for the presidency has been (?prompted) by the many approaches made to him by citizens of (?Gohnsua) City.

Meanwhile, Mr G. Bacchus Matthews, one of several Liberians expressing their desire to form political parties, says a committee to organize a United People's Party has been established. Mr Matthews said the certificate of unincorporated association of the committee was filed on Thursday with the registrar of deeds of Montserrado County. Mr Matthews is chairman of the committee with Wesley Johnson as vice chairman. Others are Oscar Joe Quiah, secretary general; Richard Doe, treasurer; Marcus Gban, assistant secretary general; Blamo Nelson and Affonso Kawah as members.

Officials Resign for Political Affiliations

AB071150 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Excerpt] With only 1 day to the deadline given by head of state Commander in Chief Samuel Kanyon Doe for government officials who wish to organize or associate with political parties to resign, two government officials have responded by tending in their resignations. The two officials, the solicitor general of Liberia at the Justice Ministry, Counsellor James Lovely Supuwood, and the assistant planning and economic affairs minister, Dr Willie Kollie, resigned their posts yesterday.

In his letter of resignation addressed to the head of state, Counsellor Supuwood said that his move has been motivated by his desire to become politically active in the process leading to the building of conditions necessary for democracy in this country. He said his resignation was therefore intended to avoid conflict between his political activities and the mandate of the office of solicitor general. Concluding, the counsellor's letter asked the head of state to accept his thanks in appreciation for allowing him to be of service to the Liberian people during these turbulent years in the nation's national history.

However, when contacted in the afternoon yesterday for confirmation, Presidential Affairs Minister J. Bernard Blamo told LINA [LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY] that his office had received just a letter from Assistant Minister Dr Willie Kollie. In an interview with LINA yesterday, Mr Willie Kollie said he had grown up with Moja [Movement for Justice in Africa] over the years and now that Moja has revitalized its activity geared towards a democratic society, he feels it an obligation to join ranks with his colleagues in this national endeavor. He further told LINA that his resignation is also an honest approach to the head of state's ultimatum to be frank with him and not to play double face.

Assistant Foreign Minister Dies in Plane Crash
AB071928 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Authorities in the Ivory Coast have confirmed the crash of the Beechcraft which reportedly took off last Saturday night from James Spriggs Payne Airport in Monrovia. Assistant [foreign affairs] minister for the bureau of public affairs, Toe Towah, another Liberian, D. Camara, and two other passengers as well as the pilot were involved in the crash. Investigations by officials of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Commerce, Industry and Transportation continue, but reports indicate that there were no survivors.

Further on Crash
LD071614 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Mr Toe Towah, Liberian assistant foreign affairs minister, died Saturday night in a plane crash near Aboisso in the Ivory Coast. The single-engine plane belonged to the Transivoire Company. Five other people also died in the accident.

MALI

Communique on Joint Commission Meeting With Senegal
AB062301 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 6 Aug 84

["Final Communique" issued at the end of the session of the Mali-Senegal Joint Commission for Cooperation in Bamako on 6 August — read by Abdousalam Mbengue, Senegalese ambassador to Mali]

[Text] The sixth ordinary session of the Mali-Senegal Joint Commission for Cooperation was held in Bamako from 2 to 6 August 1984. The Senegalese delegation was headed by His Excellency Abdourahmane Toure, minister of commerce, and included Abdousalam Mbengue, Senegalese ambassador to Mali, and several high-ranking dignitaries.

The Malian delegation was headed by His Excellency Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, and included Mamadou Diawara, the Malian ambassador to Dakar, and other dignitaries.

His Excellency Abdourahmane Toure, the Senegalese minister of commerce, was received by General Moussa Traore, head of state and secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People (UDPM), to whom he brought a fraternal and friendly message from His Excellency Abdou Diouf, president of the Republic of Senegal. He payed courtesy call on Drissa Keita, minister of finance temporarily in charge of the Ministry of Transports and Public Works, and the minister in of state societies and enterprises, His Excellency Bandiougou Bidia Doukoure.

On the invitation of the Malian Government, His Excellency Abdourahmane Toure visited Timbuktu, Djenne, Mopti, and the Dogon region, accompanied by the Malian minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation. Thus, the minister of commerce could form an opinion of the real Malian socioeconomic situation.

During the deliberations the two countries examined all the questions relating to the different fields of bilateral cooperation within the framework of the conventions and agreements existing between them. They took this opportunity to define the ways and means to strengthen their relationship.

In economic and technical fields, the two parties stressed the need to increase and diversify commercial exchanges and agreed on the concrete ways to achieve them. They expressed satisfaction with the Senegalese minister of commerce's visit to Bamako from 9 to 12 July 1984, which constituted a decisive step in reactivating the cooperation between the two countries. They agreed on measures to increase the exchange rate, to intensify cooperation in agriculture by exchanging information, experience, and seeds. In stockbreeding, they insisted on the need to sign an agreement on animal health. As for industry and mines, the two parties set up an ad hoc committee presided over by the minister in charge of industry and mines of one of the two countries.

As for tourism, they adopted the conclusions drawn up during the meeting of the authorities in charge of tourism in both countries held in Dakar from 22 to 29 October 1982. Concerning urban development, housing, and cartography, the two parties expressed satisfaction with the fruitful exchanges in this field and decided to continue the already existing efforts. The two parties reaffirmed their interest in developing cooperation in the field of transport which is an important factor in shortening the distance

between peoples. They thoroughly examined the different aspects of this sector. They expressed satisfaction with the plans of the two ministers in charge of transport to hold an ad hoc committee meeting on 8 August 1984 in Bamako. On coastal trade, they exchanged views on the essential questions of coastal shipping of Malian goods through Dakar harbor, shipping rates, and the storage of goods.

Concerning the railroad sector, both sides signed an agreement relating to the setting up of a joint customs checkpoint at the Senegal-Mali border. They also agreed to update the 1963 railroad agreement.

Concerning road transport, they stressed the need for the construction of the Dakar-Bamako expressway through the south, and the Tambacounda-Kayes road. To this effect, they agreed to jointly seek the necessary funds.

Concerning air transport, both countries stressed the need to resume flight service between them and expressed satisfaction with the existing cooperation in the postal services sector. Concerning telecommunications, they agreed to find ways and means toward further exploitation of the telecommunications facilities between the two countries.

Concerning the cultural and social sector, the two sides agreed to harmonize their social security regulations. Concerning culture, sports, and youth activities, the two sides agreed to direct their efforts toward objectives which can be achieved. To this effect, a program was adopted for the exchange of artistic troops, for joint arts exhibitions, cinema weeks, and exchange of sports delegations between the two countries for the 1985-1986 period. A draft project for cultural exchange in 1984-1986 submitted by Senegal will be examined and signed as soon as possible.

Concerning education, both sides agreed on the exchange of information, experiences, and experts, agreements between their universities, and on the creation of a general directory of secondary, technical, vocational, and higher schools. As for information, both sides expressed the desire to open sales centers for *LE SOLEIL* in Bamako, and another in Dakar for *L'UNION*. Within the framework of promotion of Senegalese and Malian films, a draft agreement on a joint film production was submitted by the Senegalese side.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with their excellent relations in the health and social welfare fields, and also decided to reactivate this cooperation through exchange of experiences in primary health care sectors and periodic meetings of experts. Both sides agreed to further their cooperation in scientific and technical research. They accepted the creation of an ad hoc committee to examine social and cultural matters.

In order to implement all the decisions reached and in conformity with the recommendations by both governments, the two sides decided to summon the meetings of the various ad hoc committees already set up. They are the trade committee, the kola nut committee, the ad hoc mining and industry committee, the ad hoc transport committee, and the ad hoc social welfare committee.

At the end of their deliberations both sides expressed satisfaction with the brotherly and friendly atmosphere of mutual understanding which characterized the sixth session of the Senegal-Mali Joint Commission for Cooperation. They also expressed satisfaction with the excellent political and neighborly relations which testify to the strong desire of the two heads of state to make their relations exemplary. They then expressed satisfaction with the constant contacts between the two countries' leaders.

Abdourahmane Toure has in his own name and on behalf of the delegation he was leading thanked the Malian Government and people for the excellent conditions provided for the success of this sesssion and for the warm reception accorded the Senegalese delegation during its stay in Mali. The two delegations agreed to hold the next session of the Joint Commission in Dakar in 1985 at a date to be fixed by common consent.

[Issued in] Bamako, 6 August 1984.

[Signed] On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Senegal: His Excellency Abdourahmane Toure, Minister of Commerce

On behalf of the government of the Republic of Mali: His Excellency Alioune Blondin Beye, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

NIGERIA

Country To Seek OAU Meeting on Western Sahara

AB072030 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Nigeria is to initiate another move to reconvene a meeting of the OAU Implementation Committee on Western Sahara for the next summit of the organization. This was stated today at Dodan Barracks by the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, while receiving a special message from President Moussa Traore of Mali.

Gen Buhari said that Nigeria was not satisfied with the OAU response to her earlier request to convene a meeting of the committee. He appealed to African nations not to allow any issue to affect the cohesion of the organization, stressing that Western Sahara was not an Arab problem, but an African affair. He appealed to African nations directly or indirectly involved in the conflicts in Western Sahara, Chad, and southern Africa to ensure that the next OAU summit was held on schedule. On Chad, the head of state said that Nigeria remained consistent in her support for OAU mediation efforts, adding that the country was willing to assist in any way possible to bring the factions in Chad to the negotiating table.

Gen Buhari reiterated the commitment of Nigeria to the strengthening of bilateral relations between her and the Republic of Mali. The Malian minister of works and public utilities [title as heard] Modibo Keita, who delivered the message, had earlier briefed the head of state on Mali's stand on international and African issues including the bilateral relations between her and Nigeria.

FMG To Investigate Reports on Shell Oil
AB071405 Lagos NAN in English 1300 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, Aug. 7 (NAN) — The minister of petroleum and energy, Prof Tam David-West, said in Lagos yesterday that the Federal Military Government [FMG] was looking into reports that Shell International Petroleum and other Western oil firms received secret incentives to supply oil to South Africa.

Speaking to newsmen shortly after seeing off OPEC conference president, Mr Kamil al-Maqhur, the minister said "We cannot stay unconcerned Nigeria is not going to act unilaterally." [sentence as received] Western oil firms were accused by the London *SUNDAY OBSERVER* of receiving half a billion naira for secret shipments of oil to South Africa. According to the *OBSERVER*, Shell International Petroleum received 200 million U.S. dollars (about N153 million) in "secret incentives" while other companies paid U.S. 8 dollars per barrel as "further incentives" to supply oil to their South African subsidiaries.

But in a statement in Lagos yesterday, Shell International Petroleum Company said it "has always observed producing countries' destination restrictions regarding crude oil" supply to the apartheid enclave.

Nigeria, like other oil producing countries, restricts the supply of its oil to South Africa in compliance with international economic sanctions against South Africa. The Nigerian Government holds 80 percent of the shares in the Shell Petroleum Company of Nigeria, the affiliate of Shell International Petroleum Company.

Idiagbon, Spanish Envoy on Economic Cooperation
AB062150 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] The Federal Military Government is to cooperate with Spain in the economic field. This was stated today at Dodan Barracks by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, while exchanging views with the Spanish ambassador in Nigeria, Mr Jose Fernandez. Brig Idiagbon said that the Federal Military Government was already reviewing most of the projects embarked upon by the ousted regime and will inform his embassy of the government's decision as it affects the Spanish firms. On the detention of some Spanish nationals, the chief of staff stated that investigations have started on the matter, adding that anyone found guilty will be punished. Brig Idiagbon implored the Spanish Government to support the fight against apartheid, stressing that there should be no mincing of words on the issue of racism in South Africa. The Spanish envoy had earlier commended the Federal Military Government for the steady progress the nation's economy has (?recorded), pointing out his government supported the innovative posture of the present administration and the way it took off.

Former NAP Head Sues Idiagbon for Passport
AB071350 Lagos NAN English 1130 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, Aug 6 (NAN) — The leader of the defunct Nigerian Advance Party (NAP), Mr Tunji Braithwaite, today filed an application at the Lagos high court for an order to compel the chief of Army staff to release to him his passport seized since January. The attorney-general of the federation is joined as a co-defendant in the suit.

In the application, filed on his behalf by a Lagos lawyer, Dr Olu Onagoruwa, Mr Braithwaite said that his passport was seized by "agents of the chief of Army staff" on Jan 10. He said that the seizure of his passport was a violation of his fundamental rights to freedom of movement, personal liberty and dignity of human person as guaranteed "by the 1979 constitution."

In an affidavit to back up the application, Mr Braithwaite said that the continuous seizure of his passport had inflicted "untold hardship" on him and had adversely affected his occupation as a legal practitioner. He contended that his inability to travel out of the country had made it impossible for him to fully carry out his professional obligations to his clients. He further said that he had been denied access to members of his family and clients living abroad by the seizure of the passport.

Mr Braithwaite stated that he had communicated to the head of state, the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, the chief of Army staff and the director of military intelligence but that all the communications had proved futile. Mr Braithwaite said that he did not belong to the category of persons who had committed any offense against any laws of the country. He stated that he did not hold any government public office and contended that the chief of Army staff, therefore, had no justifiable reason to order the seizure of his passport.

Ex-Bendel Governor Given 24 More Years in Prison
AB031730 Lagos NAN in English 1720 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] Ibadan, Aug 3 (NAN) — A former Bendel governor, Ambrose Alli, was today sentenced to 72 years' imprisonment by the Ibadan zone of the Special Tribunal on Recovery of Public Property. He was found guilty of a three-counts charge of corrupt enrichment and breach of the 1979 code of conduct constitutional provisions for public officers. Alli will, however, spend 24 of the 72 calender years in jail as the sentences will run concurrently.

According to the tribunal chairman, Brig Chalres Ndiomu, Alli was found guilty of receiving a kickback of 1.2 million naira on a N19.7 million river dam contract awarded by his government to the Water Resources and Engineering Construction Agency in 1981. Brig Ndiomu ordered that the former governor should refund the N1.2 million to the Federal Military Government. In addition, Alli was also ordered to refund N57,356.75, which was the interest which accrued on the N1.2 million deposited in the bank. Similarly, the tribunal ordered that N48,358, which was

retrieved from one of the companies used to front for Alli, Jovia Enterprises, be forfeited to the Federal Government. The tribunal also ordered that 30 of the 90 new buses, which were discovered to have been bought from the kickbacks, be sold and the proceeds paid to the Federal Government.

Reviewing the case earlier, Brig Ndiomu said that the overwhelming evidence of the 13 prosecution witnesses were such that no reasonable tribunal provide an escape route. [sentence as received] He described the evidence of Alli that the sum of N1.2 million paid by the water firm, was a party donation and not a kickback, as a "blatant lie."

Before judgement was passed, a member of the tribunal, Lt-Col Y. Madaki, described Alli as one who cheated both his party and his people. He said, "If there's anybody who cheated on both sides, wreck the people, wreck his party, it is Prof Alli." Lt-Col Madaki said that the Nigerian public should "see the degree of rape by the people who are elected to represent them."

When asked by Brig Ndiomu to speak in mitigation of his sentence, Alli said, "I thank the tribunal members for their verdict and patience in listening to my case," and that he had no witness to give evidence in mitigation of his sentence.

Alli had on June 18 been sentenced to a total of 66 calendar years by the tribunal of which he is spending 22 years for demanding and receiving N4.8 million from Hispanic Construction Company. Of the amount, the tribunal found Alli to have enriched himself to the tune of N983,000 in cash.

SENEGAL

Army Chief To Become Ambassador to UK

AB061245 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] A transfer of power ceremony will today take place at 0900 at Dial Diop barracks under the chairmanship of Medoune Fall, Armed Forces minister.

General Idrissa Fall, who was at the head of the Army for several years, has been appointed ambassador to London and is being replaced by General Joseph Tavares da Souza, former secretary general of the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement.

TOGO

President Eyadema Receives Nigeria's Gambari

AB072040 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Two foreign delegations were at the Presidential Palace this morning. They were from Nigeria and Benin and they were successively received by the head of state. The Nigerian delegation was led by Ibrahim Gambari, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. At the end of the audience, Mr Gambari told the press that his talks with President Eyadema centered on security problems and the cooperation between Nigeria and Togo.

[Begin Gambari recording in English followed by French translation] President Eyadema was gracious to receive us in audience. We paid our respect and courtesy and his excellency was kind enough to analyze the problems facing our West African subregion and offered his view on some of the solutions to them in the context of the meeting which we have just concluded, the meeting of foreign ministers and ministers of internal affairs, on security and related matters and also in the context of the ECOWAS. Furthermore, his excellency reviewed Nigerian-Togolese relations, which are in very excellent shape and we look forward very much in Nigeria to the visit of his excellency, the president of Togo. I wish it will be undertaken very soon. [end recording]

It should be noted that this first audience took place in the presence of the Political Bureau Members; Kpotivi Lacle, minister of interior; Akakpo-Ahianyo, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; and Gbegnon Amegboh, member of the Central Committee, minister delegate to the Presidency in charge of information, posts and telecommunications.

ANGOLA

Ustinov Sends Congratulations on FAPLA Anniversary

MB080627 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0445 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Message from USSR Defense Minister Marshal Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov to Defense Minister Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha — date not given]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Minister, in the name of the USSR Armed Forces and in my name, I convey to you and all Angolan military men my congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the founding of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA].

On this memorable date, I want to express the certainty that the relations of friendship and cooperation between our peoples and Armies will develop and strengthen in the interests of peace and progress and against the maneuvers of international imperialism, racism and apartheid.

With esteem, Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov, Marshal of the USSR, USSR Defense Minister

Defense Forces 'Annihilate' 191 UNITA 'Criminals'

MB031448 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] A total of 143 UNITA criminals were annihiliated by the national and defense security forces in the period from 17 to 24 July in the Cuanza Sul, Bie Cuando Cubango, Huambo, and Benguela Provinces. According to ANGOP, citing reliable military sources today, the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] combatants seized large quantities of war materiel, including shells, detonators, cartridges, light weapons, and ammunition of different calibers.

In the offensive launched between 10 and 15 July, FAPLA forces annihilated 48 UNITA criminals and also captured large quantities of war materiel.

Armed Forces Kill 50 UNITA Infiltrators

MB061955 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] A total of 50 UNITA criminals were annihilated last Friday by the national defense and security forces when a group of bandits tried to infiltrate the area of Lucala in Cuanza Norte Province. According to informaiton circulated by ANGOP citing authorized military sources, this vigorous intervention by the fighters of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola resulted in the capture of a large quantity of war materiel and assorted military equipment.

In their infiltration attempt, the UNITA murderers killed 43 peasants in cold blood and wounded another 68, in addition to pillaging the goods belonging to those who were killed and wounded and burning their houses. Demostrating their criminal nature, the UNITA bandits also attacked the local hospital with mortar cross-fire [fogo cruzado de morteiro].

A Cuanza Norte party and government delegation left for the area to familiarize itself with the crimes perpetrated by the bandits and the current needs of the residents of the area following the criminal attack. The delegation gave guidelines for the defense of the revolutionary gains of the Angolan people and the neutralization of UNITA criminals.

MADAGASCAR

Briefs

New Ambassadors — Mr Jean-Jacques Maurice has been appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar to the DPRK with residence in Beijing. Mr Christian Remi Richard was appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar to the Kingdom of the Netherlands with residence in Brussels, while Mr Apolinaire Andriatsiafajato was appointed our ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the SFRY with residence in Rome. Meanwhile, a communique from the Algerian and Malagasy Governments informs us that the Algerian Government has appointed Mr Hocine Mesloub as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria to the Democratic Republic of Madagascar with residence in Antananarivo. The Malagasy Government has given its consent to the appointment. [Text] [Antananarivo Dometic Service in French 1030 GMT 7 Aug 84 MB]

MALAWI

Prepatory Meeting Held for Conference With Zambia

MB071954 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] A preparatory meeting of officials for the second ministerial conference of the Malawi-Zambian permanent commission of cooperation opened in Blantyre today with both sides expressing the need for intensifying cooperation in the economic field. Leaders of both sides said that cooperation in this field was needed at this time when Africa was facing adverse economic trends. The leaders said it was the commission's obligation to undertake certain joint projects aimed at improving the quality of life of the people of the two countries.

The meeting today reviewed progress on the two countries' economic and social cooperation achieved since the first meeting was held in the Zambian capital of Lusaka in February last year, and the ministerial conference will be held tomorrow.

The protocol establishing a permanent commission of cooperation between Zambia and Malawi was signed in Blantyre in March 1982 by his excellency the life president ngwazi, Dr Kamuzu Banda, and the Zambian president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda.

Finance Minister Speaks at Fete for Zambians

MB080706 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The minister of finance, Mr Edward Bwanali, has urged both Malawians and Zambians to match their historical background with their determination to overcome economic obstacles facing the two countries through joint efforts in the fields of agriculture, trade, and tourism. Mr Bwanali made the call last night at a reception he hosted in Blantyre in honor of the Zambian delegation to the second permanent commission meeting of Zambia and Malawi. He said Malawians and Zambians have an obligation to follow on the stage led by the leaders of the two countries in furthering the relationship between Malawi and Zambia through joint cooperation.

Speaking in reply, the Zambian minister of national commissions for development planning [title as heard], Dr Meebelo, called on Malawi and Zambia to consolidate their social, economic, and industrial strides in order to satisfactorily meet the means of their peoples as envisaged by the establishment of the permanent commission of cooperation between the two countries.

The ministerial conference of the Malawi-Zambia permanent commission of cooperation is to be held in Blantyre today. A preparatory meeting for the conference was held in Blantyre yesterday at which delegates from both sides expressed the need to intensify cooperation in the economic field, especially at this time when Africa was facing adverse economic trends. The protocol establishing the commission was signed by the leaders of Malawi and Zambia in March 1982.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Says Aid Needed To Reintegrate 'Bandits'

MB051201 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] President Samora Machel said Mozambique needs the cooperation of the international community to help reintegrate captured Mozambique National Resistance gunmen into society. The president was speaking in Maputo yesterday, when he and other members of the government were shown a group of 100 armed bandits who had surrendered or been captured this year.

President Machel spoke of the suffering they had caused and said a big effort by Mozambique and the international community would be required to help those victims recuperate. But he said assistance was also needed for the gunmen who had been captured or had surrendered. They had to be fed and clothed and reintegrated and this was a heavy burden on the state.

Bandits have been surrendering in large numbers since the Nkomati Accord last March cut them off from the South African Government's support. Several of the bandits presented yesterday spoke of their training camps in South Africa before the Nkomati Accord. A team from South African Television was present yesterday, and they were invited by President Machel to film the men who had in effect been South Africa's soldiers.

Machel Leaves for ZANU-PF Congress in Harare

MB071830 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Field Marshal Samora Machel, the president of the party, this afternoon left for Harare, where he is going to take part at the second ZANU party congress due to begin tomorrow. The Mozambican presidential delegation includes Marcelino dos Santos, a member of the Political Bureau, and Central Committee Secretary Jose Luis Cabaco.

Tanzanian, Mozambican Army Leaders Meet 'Bandits'

MB031205 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] The chief of the general staff of the Tanzanian Army, Major General Mwakalindile, has been meeting captured armed bandits. Gen Mwakalindile was accompanied by the Mozambican chief of staff, Lieutenant General Sebastiao Mabote. The two officers spoke to a group of 75 armed bandits who had been captured or had surrendered in the southern provinces of Maputo, Gaza, and Inhambane.

Gen Mabote told the bandits that they would be reintegrated into society once they had supplied all the information they had about the bandit groups. Two of them said they had been trained as parachutists in South Africa and three had been fighting against Mozambique for the past 4 years, but the vast majority had only been bandits for a few months. Gen Mabote said a campaign to wipe out the bandits had been stepped up since the beginning of this year and more than 3,000 were now in captivity.

Captured 'Bandits' Presented to Diplomats

MB071912 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Some of a total of 3,500 armed bandits captured by the FPLM were this afternoon presented to members of the diplomatic corps in Maputo. Major General Antonio Hama Thai, the air force commander, who presided over the presentation ceremony of the armed bandits at Costa do Sol, invited the members of the diplomatic corps to talk to the prisoners and inspect a quantity of war materiel captured by the FPLM. Most of the materiel, which included antivehicle mines, weapons, explosives, radio receivers, and ammunition, is of Western and South African origin.

According to our reporting team, this initiative to present the armed bandits to the members of the diplomatic corps was important in that it enabled them to clarify possible doubts which existed regarding the bandits' profoundly criminal nature. It is firmly believed that the members of the diplomatic corps will inform their countries and the world the truth: that in Mozambique there is no political opposition but only armed banditry.

Also present at Costa do Sol were a number of national and foreign newsmen, including the editor of *DRUM* magazine of South Africa. It will be recalled that during the Southern African Development Coordination Conference summit in Gaborone, the editor of *DRUM* magazine was invited by President Samora Machel to visit Mozambique to understand the reasons for the Nkomati Accord.

FPLM Kills 48 'Bandits' in Various Operations

MB050826 Mozambique Domestic Service in Portuguese 0605 GMT 5 Aug 84

["Armed Forces Voice of Combat" program]

[Text] The FPLM unit stationed at (Mambeche), in Sofala Province, killed seven armed bandits and captured bazooka rockets and ammunition boxes during a hot pursuit operation against a group of bandits who attempted to sabotage the Canxixe enterprise water conduit in Sofala Province. During this operation, our comrades freed 10 civilians who had been abducted. Also in Sofala, our comrades killed 17 bandits in the region of Macumba in an action carried out in that area.

In the Maiene region, in Inhambane Province, our forces attacked and assaulted a group of bandits on 27 July. They killed 10 criminals and captured another 3. In Zambezia Province, two bandits were killed in the course of a fight which took place in Mocuba district.

In a mopping up operation, our Tete comrades attacked a group of armed bandits in the region of (Mossona), and the bandits fled in disarray, leaving 12 bodies and various types of war materiel on the field.

Armed Forces 'Neutralize' 5 'Bandits' in Zambezia

MB061550 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] A group of five armed bandits was recently neutralized by the Mozambique Armed Forces stationed in Mopeia, Zambezia Province. A source in the military command in Mopeia said that the criminals were surprised as they were attempting to infiltrate one of the village communes located in that region of Zambezia.

20 'Armed Bandits' Surrender in Zambezia

MB061222 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] A total of 20 armed bandits have surrendered with their respective weapons to FPLM in Namorroi, Zambezia Province, during this year. During this period, some 200 bandit collaborators surrendered to the Mozambique Armed Forces.

In Morrumbala, another district of Zambezia, more than 4,000 people welcomed a group of soldiers who took part in the destruction of a bandit camp in Muaguiua. The residents gave them lunch and an assortment of supplies.

Reports from Nampula say that Corrane, which was destroyed by the armed bandits, has already been rebuilt. Primary schools are back in operation, and in the field of agriculture trading of surplus produce is under way. The residents have already traded 24 tons of various products, namely corn, rice, sorghum, sesame, coffee, sunflower, and peanuts.

NAMIBIA

7 SWAPO 'Insurgents,' 4 Civilians Killed

MB031421 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] Seven SWAPO insurgents have been killed by security forces in northern Namibia in the past week. That is according to a statement released by the South-West Africa Territory Force in Windhoek today.

The territory force also says four civilians died in Ovambo during that period. The statement says there have been three incidents of intimidation reported. A kraal [village] was reportedly burned down, and two civilians abducted and three wounded when a SWAPO member apparently opened fire with an AK-47 assault rifle at a trading store. The statement says that one of the injured was admitted to hospital with serious gunshot wounds.

Five SWAPO 'Insurgents' Killed in Kavango

MB071139 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1127 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Windhoek, Aug 7, SAPA — Security forces in northern SWA/Namibia have shot and killed five SWAPO insurgents in Kavango, SWA Territory Force [SWATF] Headquarters confirmed in Windhoek today. They were killed yesterday west of Mpungu in the Kwangali tribal area. Quantities of arms and ammunition were seized, the SWATF said.

SWAPO Blames RSA for Cape Verde Talks Failure

MB070906 Harare Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] (?Detente has not yet) settled issues [words indistinct] between SWAPO and South Africa regime. Nevertheless, SWAPO, cognizant of its responsibility to liberate Namibia from South Africa's repressive colonial rule, once again has agreed to meet with the representatives of South Africa to discuss the question of independence of our country.

This time the meeting between the delegation of SWAPO and South Africa took place in the People's Republic of Cape Verde Island as heard] on 25 July 1984. SWAPO went to Cape Verde with an open mind to get into serious negotiations with South African colonial authorities which should once and for all bring about an end to the war which has caused bloody deaths, loss of life, and destruction of our property in Namibia.

In this regard SWAPO proposes that the two delegations agree on a joint declaration to be sent to the secretary general of the United Nations. The joint declaration as proposed by SWAPO, which was to serve as a first step towards the physical solution of the Namibia problem, reads, inter alia:

The two delegations agree to request the United Nations secretary general to initiate the process of implementation of the United Nations plan on the independence of Namibia starting with an immediate cease-fire and cessation of all acts of hostility.

But the South African delegation was not interested in serious negotiations. It rejected this constructive proposal by SWAPO at the end. Moreover, the South African delegation made it quite clear that they had no mandate whatsoever to negotiate outside their already stated and restated and tactical position. This position preconditions implementation of Resolution 435, including SWAPO's withdrawal from the People's Republic of Angola, as well as pressing for a unilateral cessation of hostile acts by SWAPO while rejecting United Nations involvement in Namibia's decolonization process.

The South African delegation stated categorically and adamantly insisted that there can be no discussion of the implementation of Resolution 435 without a firm commitment on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. The news reports emanating from Pretoria and other Western news media that SWAPO rejected South Africa's cease-fire proposal are [word indistinct] and an attempt to twist the truth. The truth is that it is the South African delegation, not SWAPO, which turned down the cease-fire offer and cessation of all acts of hostility as contained in the SWAPO proposal.

It should be borne in mind that it is SWAPO that has been all along offering its readiness for the signing of cease-fire between South Africa and SWAPO forces and not vice versa. It was in view of this second insistance on the linkage that another golden opportunity to peacefully resolve the Namibian problem was again missed, thus leaving no option other than the continuation and the intensification of the armed national liberation struggle by the Namibian people. In this regard, SWAPO hopes to raise further the price of racist South Africa's occupation of our country by extending the armed liberation struggle to all corners of Namibia.

Our combatants, men and women of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia, PLAN, and the overwhelming majority of Namibian patriots, are ready to make further sacrifices even if that means a 100 years more of struggle. We will leave no stone unturned in this bitter but glorious journey to our freedom and genuine national independence. Everything for the struggle. All for final victory.

SOUTH AFRICA

STAR Reports Possible Botha Trip to Ivory Coast

MB071056 Johannesburg STAR in English 4 Aug 84 p 1

[The *STAR* bureau]

[Text] London — Preliminary arrangements are underway for Mr P.W. Botha to visit the Ivory Coast in West Africa, a report here has said.

Victor Ndovi of the OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE says Ivorian officials say the request for the visit came from Mr Botha's side and President Felix Houphouet-Boigny has agreed to it.

No date has yet been fixed for the proposed visit.

Ivory Coast has backed South African attempts to settle the dispute in Namibia and leaders of the Multi-Party Conference travelled to the Ivory Coast in June for meetings with President Houphouet-Boigny.

There were suggestions at that time that negotiations should take place in Ivory Coast's capital, Abidjan, between the Multy-Party Conference and SWAPO.

Contacts between the Ivory Coast and South Africa date back to 1971 when President Houphouet-Boigny started his project for dialogue with South Africa.

Officials from the two countries have exchanged visits and the late South African Prime Minister, Mr B.J. Vorster, visited Ivory Coast in mid-1984 [as published].

Clandestine visits by officials of both countries have continued.

A state-owned daily newspaper in the Ivory Coast, *FRATER NITE MATIN*, has praised South Africa's homeland policy, but has avoided indiscriminate praise of apartheid.

Ivory Coast is one of the few independent African countries which South Africans can visit without a visa.

South Africa, says Ndovi, is negotiating for the use of Abidjan Airport — one of the most modern on the African Continent — for projected Concorde flights between Europe and South Africa.

These negotiations are now in an advanced stage and the service, operated by British Airways, is expected to start towards the end of this year, Ndovi says.

In the past, the Ivory Coast has assisted South Africa by acting as middleman for it in purchasing oil from Nigeria.

There is active trade between Ivory Coast and South Africa, says Ndovi.

HNP Leader Discusses Agreement With Conservatives

MB071820 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1441 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Pretoria, Aug 7, SAPA — A general election soon for whites was possible and there was "no doubt" the combined forces of the Herstigte Nasionale Party [HNP] and the Conservative Party [CP] would oust the National Party from its rural Transvaal seats and many others in the country, HNP leader, Mr Jaap Marais, said today. A general election was possible, he said in an interview, in view of the voters' disillusionment at the government's handling of the country's serious economic situation — and the likelihood of a spate of by-elections as NP MP's are either nominated to the new President's Council or allowed to retire by the party.

Yesterday, he and the CP leader, Dr Andries Treurnicht, said in a joint statement the parties had, in principle, decided to join forces with a view to "replacing" the government. They said this was more necessary than ever before as the country was facing an economic crisis as a result of the government's continued attempts to promote its social and political aims at the cost of the country's economic stability.

The HNP and the CP had reached agreement on participation in forthcoming by-elections, they added. Although relations between the two parties have had their ups and downs since the CP split from the NP in 1982, the strength of an alliance between the two has been proved twice this year already, when they combined to oust NP candidates in the Soutpansberg and Potgietersrus by-elections.

There was "no doubt," Mr Marais said, that the combined forces would sweep up the rural constituencies, if a general election was called. The combined conservative political front would also gain strong support in the Orange Free State, northern Natal and the eastern and northern Cape, he predicted.

There were two reasons why he felt the government could call a general election soon after the new constitution was implemented. Firstly, it would equalise the terms of office of white MP's in the new tricameral parliament with their Coloured and Indian colleagues. Secondly, the "full force of the government's television, radio and press propaganda machine" could be brought to bear on the public much more efficiently in a general election than in a series of by-elections scattered over the country.

So far, only two by-elections, George and Parow, are officially on the cards. Although both are generally considered "safe" NP seats, the HNP's chief secretary, Mr Louis Stoffberg, said today the rightwing would contest them.

Mr Marais pointed out the new state president would still have to nominate 15 people to the President's Council and a number of NP MP's, who had wanted to step down for some time on the grounds of ill-health, would probably finally be allowed to do so by their party. In this regard, he mentioned Mr J.P. du Toit, MP for Vryburg, in the far northern Cape, who stepped down as speaker of the House of Assembly last year due to ill-health, and Mr J.H.B. Ongerer, MP for Sasolburg.

Other top nationalists whose imminent retirement is being speculated about in political circles are the minister of posts and telecommunications, Dr Lapa Munnik; the minsiter of health and welfare, Dr Nak van der Merwe; and the minister of cooperation and development, Dr Piet Koornhof.

Mr Marais said economic issues would be more at stake in by-elections now than ever before, and that people would be more likely to vote for an opposition party.

Further discussions between the HNP and the CP are scheduled for August 15, when the subject of how the two parties are to split nominations for forthcoming by-elections will be probably be discussed. A spokesman for Dr Treurnicht's office said the CP leader had nothing to add to yesterday's joint statement, and the Transvaal National Party leader, Mr F.W. de Klerk, could not be reached for comment.

Koornhof Retires; Available for President's Council

MB070430 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1415 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Pretoria, Aug 7, SAPA — The minister of cooperation and development, Dr Piet Koornhof, has announced his retirement from the Cabinet and his parliamentary constituency of Primrose. He said in a statement in Pretoria today this would take effect from the introduction of the new constitution on September 3.

Dr Koornhof also said he had informed the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, that he was available for service in the new dispensations President's Council. There has been strong speculation in political circles that Dr Koornhof would take over the post of chairman of the president's council.

The minister's brief statement read:

"I hereby wish to announce that I have informed the honorable, the prime minister, that I have decided to retire as a member of the cabinet with effect from the introduction of the new constitutional dispensation and to terminate my duties as member of parliament for the Primrose constituency. I informed the prime minister that I am available for service in the President's Council."

Labor Party Leader Appeals for Election Participation

MB080841 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The Transvaal leader of the Labor Party, Mr Jack Rabie, says participation in the election on 22 August to appoint members of the House of Representatives is in the interests of all South Africans. Speaking at a meeting at Eersterus, outside Pretoria, Mr Rabie said the election was an opportunity for all Coloreds in the country to play an active role in South Africa's future. He said participation in the elections was a step in the fight direction and boycott politics was senseless.

Information notices to Colored and Indian voters informing them about constituencies, electoral district numbers, and the addresses of their polling stations are to be mailed to all registered voters from this week. The Department of Internal Affairs said in a statement issued in Pretoria that notices concerning the elections for the House of Representatives were being sent to voters this week. Next week similar notices will be sent to all registered voters in the general election for the house of delegates. The notices have to be produced on election day but will not serve as proof of identity. The department has appealed to voters who do not receive such notices but who are registered as voters to contact their nearest electoral officer or political party office.

Bomb Causes Extensive Damage to Durban Substation
MB071937 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] A powerful bomb has exploded in Durban. Carmel Rickard went to the scene at a substation in one of the city's elite suburbs to assess the damage.

[Rickard] The explosion extensively damaged the substation in a part in Queen Mary Avenue, Glenmore. No one was injured but a family living directly opposite had a narrow escape as (Jenny Caberton) explains.

[Begin (Caberton) recording] There was a tremendous explosion and I just saw this big ball of fire and realized straight away that it was a bomb and that the substation had gone up. My immediate concern was for my children, because my little girl was playing in the garden and my son had just gone next door. So my first reaction was to run out and see that they were safe, which they were, but it made me realise what a narrow escape [word indistinct]. [end recording]

[Rickard] The electricity to the area was switched off soon after the blast in case of fire and local people are still without lights.

Suspected Terrorist Killed, 3 Flee to Botswana
MB061636 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] The commissioner of police, General Johan Coetzee, has announced that a suspected terrorist was shot dead by police near Ellisras in the northwestern Transvaal last Friday after the man had hurled a hand grenade at the police. Two blacks were injured in the grenade explosion but their conditon is satisfactory.

Gen Coetzee said a police search for four suspected terrorists had begun in the Ellisras District on Thursday. The four were tracked down but managed to escape after a brief exchange of fire. One man was tracked down later and was killed by the police after he hurled the hand grenade at them.

Gen Coetzee said the other three suspected terrorists had fled across the Botswana border. He said the police had confiscated a quantity of arms, including some of Russian origin, and other equipment.

ANC Welcomes Closure of RSA Mission in Wellington
EA071045 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] The ANC of South Africa has welcomed the closure of Pretoria's diplomatic mission in Wellington and praised New Zealand's prime minister, David Lange, for criticizing apartheid.

The ANC praised Mr Lange yesterday for taking a principled anti-racist position. It expressed the hope that the United States Democratic Party will take a cue from New Zealand in opposing President Reagan, who has embraced racist Pretoria as an ally against the blacks in South Africa.

Meanwhile, the Liberation Committee of the OAU has also praised New Zealand's new Labour prime minister for closing down South Africa's consulate in Wellington recently. The Tanzanian-based committee, in a statement, said that the decision by Mr Lange was the most effective way of demonstrating his government's respect for human dignity and opposition to apartheid. The committee called on other countries still maintaining relations with South Africa to follow the New Zealand initiative.

ANC Lists Consequences of Vote, Calls for Boycott
EA071635 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 4 Aug 84

[ANC program]

[Text] Compatriots. Fellow countrymen. The ANC, your vanguard liberation movement, addresses and appeals to you; to you, our Colored and Indian compatriots; to you, the oppressed and superexploited African majority; to you, the democratic, progressive, and freedom-loving forces of our country.

The ANC calls on you to boycott the apartheid August elections. The ANC says to you, by the vigor of our united struggle, let us make the August elections a total failure. The ANC calls on you, our Colored and Indian compatriots, to refuse to join the (?soiled) apartheid system; to refuse to be herded into apartheid polling booths like cattle into the abattoir. The ANC says: Don't vote; don't, don't vote for apartheid oppression; don't.

The ANC says if you vote, you will be voting for perpetuating the apartheid system. If you vote, you will be voting for continued domination of the black people by the white minority. If you vote, you will be offering your sons and yourselves as cannon fodder for the apartheid army of oppression and destabilization. If you vote, you will be selling your own birthright and your future for a mess of potage.

If you vote, you will be helping the enemy to plant among us the seeds of disunity and prolonged bitterness. Let us all say as one man: No, to puppet elections; no, to the polling slaughter; no, to the bi-racial parliament. The ANC says: organize, mobilize, march forward to peoples power; forward to a people's government.

ZAMBIA

Spokesman Denies Knowledge of Botha Visit

MB071157 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] A State House spokesman has denied having knowledge of South African Prime Minister Pieter Botha's visit here, as reported by REUTERS today. The spokesman said State House had no information about the visit, which is expected to take Prime Minister Botha to Ivory Coast, Zaire, Gabon, Mozambique, and Morocco.

According to official and diplomatic sources in Johannesburg, this tour would probably take place in October or later. Mr Botha recently completed a European tour — the first by a South African premier for over 20 years — which was aimed at improving the country's tarnished international image.

Kaunda Leaves for Harare ZANU-PF Congress

MB071910 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kaunda, is in Harare, Zimbabwe, to attend the ruling ZANU-PF party congress opening tomorrow. Dr Kaunda, who is accompanied by members of the Central Committee Daniel Lisulo and Mungoni Liso, along with Foreign Minister Professor Lameck Goma, was seen off at international airport by party Secretary General Humphrey Mulemba, Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia, as well as other senior party and government officials. Dr Kaunda's 2-day visit to Zimbabwe is at the invitation of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

Envoy Delivers Special Message to DPRK's Kim Il-song

MB051214 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 5 Aug 84

[Text] The DPRK president, Kim Il-song, says he greatly values the personal friendship that exists between him and Dr Kaunda. The DPRK leader said this when Zambia's ambassador to China and DPRK, Mr Mainza Chona, delivered two special messages to him from Dr Kaunda yesterday.

President Kim welcomed Mr Chona's appointment as ambassador to his country, saying that Mr Chona was an old friend of the DPRK. He hoped that with Mr Chona as ambassador, the economic and other modes of cooperation would increase between the two countries.

Mr Chona, who presented his credentials when President Kim was out of the country, congratulated him for his historic tour of the Soviet Union and other European socialist countries.

ZIMBABWE

ZANU-PF Delegates, Foreign Guests Arrive for Congress

MB071840 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] All delegates to the second ZANU-PF national congress, which begins tomorrow, have arrived. The party secretary for transport and welfare, Comrade Kumbirai Kangai, said delegates from Amsvingo and Mashonaland Central arrived late, but everyone is registering.

Three Frontline presidents also arrived in Harare for the congress. First was President Samora Machel of Mozambique, followed by President Quett Masire of Botswana, and the Zambian president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda. They were met at the airport by the president, Comrade Canaan Banana, the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, Cabinet ministers, and thousands of ZANU-PF supperters. They will join more than 150 other foreign delegates, including heads of state, who were invited to the 5-day congress. Earlier, delegations from the PRC, the SFRY, the FRG, Algeria, and the Netherlands arrived in Harare.

Announcing the congress program, the acting secretary for publicity and information, Comrade Eddison Zvobgo, said the main event tomorrow is the presentation of the Central Committee report by the party president. There will also be an announcement of the Presidium for the management of the congress.

Heads of state and parties will deliver their messages of solidarity to the congress in the afternoon. Among other things to be discussed and approved is the draft party constitution and the leadership code.

ZANU-PF Draft Constitution Highlighted

MB080601 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The second ZANU-PF national congress opens in Harare today. Among the highlights of today's session are the report of the Central Committee by the ZANU-PF president, Comrade Robert Mugabe, and messages of solidarity to the congress from invited parties and heads of state.

The ZANU-PF acting publicity secretary, Comrade Eddison Zvobgo, told a news conference in the capital yesterday that during the course of the congress some sessions will be closed to the public and newsmen. These are discussion of the Central Committee report, resolutions, and the election of members to the Central Committee. The congress is being attended by about 6,000 delegates from all the nine provinces, and more than 150 foreign delegates.

Meanwhile, the ZANU-PF draft constitution to be presented to the congress on Friday has been released. The draft emphasizes the need for the establishment of a more permanent constitutional order in the light of transformation which has taken place. It says the aims of the party will be to restructure and rebuild the national economy to ensure victory for socialism. Every member of the party will have the right to vote in any election and to be elected to any office in the party. The politburo to be established will supervise government agencies through five standing committees of the Central Committee. These are economic, political and policy, social and welfare, justice and constitutional affairs, defense, and security. A presidential commission made up of the party president and his deputy will appoint members to the politburo. The list will be put before the newly elected 90-member Central Committee for approval. The new constitution will come into effect immediately following its adoption by the national congress.

Country's Envoys Pay Courtesy Call on President
MB071151 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Twenty of Zimbabwe's 24 ambassadors and high commissioners abroad today paid a courtesy call on the president, Comrade Canaan Banana, at State House. Comrade Banana urged them, especially those representing Zimbabwe in West European countries, to continue working hard to counter negative reports about their country. He thanked the ambassadors and high commissioners for mobilizing support for Zimbabwe's development program. After attending the national congress, they will attend a 3-day seminar organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.